



# Dearly Beloved

Jane Abbott Lighty, left, and her partner Pete-e Petersen raise their right hands as they take an oath while receiving the first marriage license for a same-sex couple in King County, Thursday, Dec. 6, 2012, in Seattle. Behind Lighty and Petersen are Brendon K. Taga, left, and Jesse Page. King County Executive Dow Constantine began issuing the licenses immediately upon certification of the November election that passed Referendum 74.

(AP Photo/Elaine Thompson)

**SEATTLE (AP)** — Two by two, dozens of same-sex couples obtained their marriage licenses in Washington state early Thursday, just hours after Gov. Chris Gregoire signed a voter-approved

law legalizing gay marriage. King County, the state's biggest county, opened the doors to its auditor's office in Seattle just after midnight to start distributing marriage licenses. But hundreds of

people had lined up hours earlier, snaking around the downtown Seattle building on a chilly December night. By noon, nearly 400 licenses had been issued in Seattle. Last month, Washington,

Maine and Maryland became the first states to pass same-sex marriage by popular vote. They joined six other states — New York, Connecticut, Iowa, Massachusetts, New Hampshire,

Vermont — and the District of Columbia that had already enacted laws or issued court rulings permitting same-sex marriage.

**Continued next page**



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# NATO moves toward deployment on Syria border

**BEN HUBBARD**  
Associated Press

**BEIRUT (AP)** — As fears grow in the West that Syrian President Bashar Assad will unleash chemical weapons as an act of desperation, NATO moved forward Thursday with its plan to place Patriot missiles and troops along Syria's border with Turkey to protect against potential attacks. Assad's regime blasted the move as "psychological warfare," saying the new deployment would not deter it from seeking victory over rebels it views as terrorists.

The missile deployment sends a clear message to Assad that consequences will follow if he uses chemical weapons or strikes NATO member Turkey, which backs the rebels seeking his ouster. But its limited scope also reflects the low appetite in Western capitals for direct



**A Free Syrian Army fighter aims his weapon during heavy clashes with government forces in Aleppo, Syria. As fears grow that Syrian President Bashar Assad will unleash chemical weapons as an act of desperation, NATO moved forward Thursday with its plan to place Patriot missiles and troops along Syria's border with Turkey.**

(AP Photo/Narciso Contreras)

military intervention in the civil war. The U.S. and many European and Arab countries called for Assad to step down early in the uprising but have struggled to make that happen. Russia

and China have protected Assad from censure by the U.N. Security Council, and the presence of extremists among the rebels makes the U.S. and others nervous about arming them. In Dublin, Ireland, U.S. Sec-

retary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton joined Russia's foreign minister and the U.N. peace envoy to the Arab country for three-way talks that suggested Washington and Moscow were working toward a common strategy as the Assad regime weakens. The diplomatic efforts to end the civil war come days after NATO agreed to post Patriot missiles and troops along Turkey's southern border with Syria after mortars and shells from Syria killed five Turks.

Germany's Cabinet approved the move on Thursday, and German Defense Minister Thomas de Maiziere told reporters that the overall mission is expected to include two batteries each from the Netherlands and the United States, plus 400 soldiers and monitoring aircraft. "Nobody knows what such

a regime is capable of and that is why we are acting protectively here," said German Foreign Minister Guido Westerwelle. In Washington, U.S. Defense Secretary Leon Panetta said Thursday that intelligence reports raise fears that an increasingly desperate Assad is considering using his chemical weapons arsenal — which the U.S. and Russia agree is unacceptable. The Assad regime said the NATO deployment would not make Assad change course, calling the talk of chemical weapons part of a conspiracy to justify future intervention. "The Turkish step and NATO's support for it are provocative moves that constitute psychological warfare," Syria's Deputy Foreign Minister Faisal Mekdad said in an interview with Lebanon's Al-Manar TV. □

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# Washington gay couples get marriage licenses, satisfaction

Continued from front

Gregoire and Secretary of State Sam Reed certified the election on Wednesday afternoon, as they were joined by couples who plan to wed and community activists who worked on the campaign supporting gay marriage. Because the state has a three-day waiting period, the earliest that weddings can take place is Sunday. "We waited a long time. We've been together 35 years, never thinking we'd get a legal marriage. Now I feel so joyous I can't hardly stand it," said 85-year-old Pete-e Petersen, who with her partner, 77-year-old Jane Abbott Lighty, were the first to get a license in Seattle.

After meeting 35 years ago on a blind date in Sacramento, Lighty and Petersen will get married on Sunday. The couple has been out buying shoes and clothes for their wedding.



Melody Platt, left, and her partner Beratta Gomillion wait among the first couples in line to be issued a marriage license to a same-sex couple in Seattle. King County Executive Dow Constantine began issuing the licenses just after midnight, Thursday, Dec. 6, immediately upon certification of the November election that passed Referendum 74 allowing same-sex couples to wed. The couple is planning on getting married on their 32nd anniversary, Monday Dec. 12.

(AP Photo/Elaine Thompson)

Same-sex couples who previously were married in another state that allows gay marriage, like Massachusetts, will not have to get remarried in Washing-

ton state. Their marriages will be valid here as soon as the law takes effect.

"This is a very important and historic day in the great state of Washington," Gregoire said before signing the measure that officially certified the election results. "For many years now we've said one more step, one more step. And this is our last step for marriage equality in the state of Washington."

Referendum 74 in Washington state had asked voters to either approve or reject the state law legalizing same-sex marriage that legislators passed earlier this year. That law was signed by Gregoire in February but was put on hold pending the outcome of the election. Nearly 54 percent of voters approved the measure.

The law doesn't require religious organizations or churches to perform marriages, and it doesn't subject churches to penalties if they don't marry gay or lesbian couples.

King County, home to Seattle, and Thurston County, home to the state capital of Olympia, opened at 12:01 a.m. Thursday to start issuing marriage licenses. While King County stayed open all night, Thurston opened briefly to issue licenses to 15 couples who had entered a lottery, then closed and reopened at 7 a.m.

# Obama lights National Christmas Tree



President Barack Obama, first lady Michelle Obama, Malia Obama, Sasha Obama and Michelle Obama's mother Marian Robinson, participate in the 90th annual National Christmas Tree Lighting ceremony on the Ellipse south of the White House, Thursday, Dec. 6, 2012 in Washington.

(AP Photo/Alex Brandon)

MATTHEW DALY  
Associated Press  
WASHINGTON (AP) — Presi-

dent Barack Obama and his family have flipped the switch for the 90th annual

lighting of the National Christmas Tree.

Obama was joined at the ceremony by TV star Neil Patrick Harris, who hosted the ceremony. Performers included singers Kenneth "Babyface" Edmonds, Ledisi, Jason Mraz, James Taylor and the band The Fray. This year's giant blue

spruce is new and was transplanted in October on the Ellipse, a park that lies between the White House and the National Mall. The previous tree died from transplant shock after just a year. Before that, a tree that stood for more than 30 years was destroyed by winds in February 2011.

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## Demint leaving Senate to run Heritage Foundation

JENNIFER STEINHAUER  
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**WASHINGTON** — Sen. Jim DeMint, the conservative Republican from South Carolina who helped ignite the Tea Party movement, will leave the Senate to become president of the Heritage Foundation, a conservative research group.

DeMint — who has fashioned himself into a bit of a kingmaker for conservative Republicans, often at the expense of his own Republican colleagues — now finds himself with a comfortable and well-paying perch that will provide a platform to continue his efforts to push the Republican Party to the right. His imminent departure will allow him to advocate even more loudly against a big budget deal that includes higher tax revenues sought by President Barack Obama. He has been among the biggest critics of a deal proffered by House Speaker John A. Boehner to address the impending fiscal crisis by generating at least \$800 billion in new tax revenue.

"I'm leaving the Senate now, but I'm not leaving the fight," DeMint said in a prepared statement Thursday. "I've decided to join The Heritage Foundation at a time when the conservative movement needs strong leadership in the battle of ideas. No organization is better equipped to lead this fight, and I believe my experience in public office as well as in the private sector as a business owner will help Heritage become

even more effective in the years to come."

DeMint will depart the Senate in January. He replaces Edwin J. Feulner, 71, who will continue part-time as chairman of the foundation's Asian Studies Center. A hero to many Republicans for his fundraising abilities, DeMint frustrated Sen-

ate past two elections in their efforts to retake the Senate, although he successfully backed conservative candidates in Florida, Texas and Utah. "The truth is that Jim DeMint's philosophy on everything from Medicare to women's reproductive rights, as embodied by his handpicked candidates

fluence may well be enhanced from the outside. Gov. Nikki Haley of South Carolina, a Republican, will now be compelled to appoint a successor who would then run to maintain the seat in a special election in 2014, when Republican Sen. Lindsey Graham, the senior senator from the



**Sen. Jim DeMint (R-S.C.) speaks to reporters prior to a Senate GOP luncheon on Capitol Hill in Washington, Nov. 29, 2011. DeMint, who helped incite the Tea Party movement, said in a statement he will leave the Senate in January, 2013, to become president of the Heritage Foundation, a conservative research group. (Philip Andrews/The New York Times)**

ate colleagues by backing Republican candidates like Sharron Angle of Nevada in 2010 and Richard Mourdock of Indiana this year, contenders who proved too conservative to be elected statewide. The losses by Angle and Mourdock and other candidates endorsed by DeMint hurt Republicans in the

for Congress, has been rejected by voters," said Sen. Patty Murray of Washington, who headed the Democratic Senatorial Campaign Committee this year. The costly Senate defeats, as well as DeMint's proclivity for gumming up legislation on the floor, stunted his chances for leadership in the Senate, and his in-

state, will also be up for reelection. Aides said Haley was surprised by DeMint's sudden announcement. South Carolina is a small state, politically speaking, and almost every Republican member of the House delegation, many of them close to DeMint politically and personally, are possible fill-ins. □

## Russian trade bill heading to President

JEREMY W. PETERS

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The Senate voted Thursday to finally eliminate Cold War-era trade restrictions on Russia, but at the same time it condemned Moscow for human rights abuses, threatening to further strain an already fraught relationship with the Kremlin. The Senate bill, which passed the House of Representatives last month, now goes to President Barack Obama, who has opposed turning a trade bill into a statement on the Russian government's treatment of its people. But with such overwhelming support in Congress — the measure passed the Senate 92-4 and the House 365-43 — the administration has had little leverage to press its case. And Obama has shown little desire to pick a fight in which he would appear to be siding with the Russians on such a delicate issue. Speaking to reporters shortly after the Senate vote, Jay Carney, the White House press secretary, said the president was committed to signing the bill.

The most immediate effect of the bill will be to formally normalize trade relations with Russia after nearly 40 years. Since the 1970s, commerce between Russia and the United States has been subject to restrictions that were designed to punish Communist nations that refused to allow their citizens to leave freely. □

# Obama remains tough on 'fiscal cliff' position



President Barack Obama pauses as he speaks to the media during a visit with high school English teacher Tiffany Santana, left, and others, Thursday, Dec. 6, 2012, in Falls Church, Va., to discuss the importance of extending income tax cuts and small businesses.

(AP Photo/Carolyn Kaster)

**STEVEN R. HURST**  
Associated Press

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — President Barack Obama and Republicans crept closer to negotiations on avoiding a recession-threatening package of automatic tax increases and spending cuts, but the White House reaffirmed it would not budge on demands for higher taxes on the wealthy.

To drive home the point, Obama pressed his hard line on tax rate increases for the wealthy from the basement a family's basement apartment in suburban northern Virginia Thursday, declaring they would suffer

economically if Washington doesn't extend tax cuts for the 98 percent of American families that earn less than \$250,000 a year.

"We're in the midst of the Christmas season," Obama said, sitting at a table in the Santana family's home. "I think the American people are counting on this getting solved. The closer it gets to the brink, the more stress there is going to be."

Obama and lawmakers have until the end of the year to avert across-the-board spending cuts and across-the-board tax increases. The president reiterated the firm stance he has taken in recent days,

warning that he's willing to let that economy-rattling double whammy take effect if Republicans don't drop their opposition to higher tax rates for the wealthy.

"Just to be clear, I'm not going to sign any package that somehow prevents the top rate from going up for the folks in the top 2 percent," Obama said.

"But I do remain optimistic that we can get something done that is good for families like this one and is good for the American economy," Obama said.

The president's quick trip to the Santana home — just a 15 minute drive from the

White House — is part of his effort to rally public support for his tax proposals. The family he visited was one of several hundred thousand who shared a story online, at the White House's urging.

With a new AP-GFK poll showing clear support for Obama's position and dwindling backing for cutting government services to curb the climbing U.S. budget deficit, the president and House of Representatives Speaker John Boehner spoke by telephone Wednesday for the first time in days about a way to avoid the so-called fiscal cliff which would occur on Jan. 1.

The telephone contact

initiated by Obama, and disclosed by a Boehner spokesman, raised the possibility that negotiations could soon resume on heading off what some economists warn could be a serious blow to an economy still recovering from the Great Recession.

So far, Republican leaders have said they would only agree to higher tax revenues by closing loopholes or reducing tax breaks, not by raising rates as demanded by Obama. The opposition has struggled, however, to remain united and find its footing in talks with a president emboldened by his November election victory and unified congressional Democrats. □

## US: North Korea launch intended to show their missile technology

**M. PENNINGTON**  
Associated Press

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — North Korea's plan to fire a satellite into space is really intended to show the world its capability to build missiles, a top U.S. commander said Thursday, as Pyongyang readied the launch of its long-range rocket and the U.S. moved extra ships toward the region. Pacific forces commander Adm. Samuel Locklear said it was

unclear whether North Korea has corrected the problems of a failed launch of a similar long-range rocket in April that drew U.N. condemnation. He said such a missile capability would be destabilizing to international security. North Korea says it has only peaceful intentions. It says the launch will take place between Dec. 10 and Dec. 22. In Seoul, a South Korean military intelligence official said Wednesday

that North Korea has mounted the first and second stages of a three-stage rocket on the Sohae launch pad on its northwest coast. South Korean officials couldn't confirm media reports that all three stages of the rocket are in place. North Korea has a long history of developing ballistic missiles, but in four attempts since 1998 has not successfully completed the launch of a three-stage rocket. □

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# Court orders resentencing for doctor in bombing

**JEANNIE NUSS**  
Associated Press

**LITTLE ROCK, Arkansas (AP)**

— A doctor sentenced to life in prison for a 2009 bombing that nearly killed the head of the Arkansas state medical board should be resentenced on some convictions, a federal appeals court ruled Thursday. A jury convicted Randeep Mann, an Indian-born naturalized U.S. citizen, in 2010 of conspiring to use a weapon of mass destruction and other charges. The Feb. 4, 2009, bomb attack took away Dr. Trent Pierce's sense of smell and left him blind in one eye and deaf in one ear.

Mann's attorneys appealed his convictions and sentences, arguing there

wasn't enough evidence to convict him.

The 8th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals said Thursday that Mann shouldn't have received a sentencing enhancement based on allegations that he ordered the assault of an inmate. The panel said the allegation was never brought up in court and was improperly referenced in a presentencing report.

"The only reference in the record to Mann ordering the assault of a federal inmate is contained in a bench conference that occurred at trial between the district judge and the attorneys," the appeals court opinion said.

The court affirmed the weapon of mass destruc-



**Dr. Randeep Mann, who was sentenced to life in prison for a 2009 bombing that nearly killed the head of the state medical board should be re-sentenced on some convictions, a federal appeals court ruled Thursday, Dec. 6, 2012. A jury convicted Mann, 54, in 2010 of conspiring to use a weapon of mass destruction and other charges in the Feb. 4, 2009, attack on Dr. Trent Pierce.**

(AP Photo)

tion conviction, but ordered that one of Mann's two machine gun convic-

tions be tossed out, finding they amounted to double jeopardy. Mann was convicted of both possessing an unregistered machine gun and possessing a machine gun.

Prosecutors said Mann, 54, was responsible for a bomb left outside Pierce's home in West Memphis, Arkansas, after the board suspended Mann's license following the overdose deaths of some of his patients. Pierce has said he believes the attack was revenge for revoking Mann's license to prescribe narcotics.

"Mann had a long history of investigations by the Board, and Dr. Pierce testified that he had been particularly vocal about his belief that Mann was providing improper care to his patients," the appeals court opinion said.

U.S. Attorney Chris Thyer said he was pleased with the court's decision.

"The United States understands and accepts the

reasons for the reversal on the machine gun and sentencing issues and will prepare for the resentencing hearing," Thyer said in a statement. "The affirmation of the jury's verdict on the counts of conviction puts to rest any questions of the defendant's guilt, especially regarding his role in the 2009 bombing of Dr. Trent Pierce."

Online court records didn't list a new sentencing date for Mann as of Thursday.

"We're hopeful, obviously, that he will be able to get some relief from a life sentence," one of Mann's lawyers, Blake Hendrix, said. Hendrix also said he anticipates asking the appeals court to rehear the case and reconsider the rulings that were unfavorable to Mann.

Federal prisons records show Mann is serving a life sentence at the U.S. Penitentiary-Canaan, about 20 miles (32 kilometers) east of Scranton, Pennsylvania. □

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## Florida python hunt could bring out worst in residents, tourists

**Frank Cerabino**

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**WEST PALM BEACH, Fla.** --

Attention snake hunters, snowbirds who've grown tired of golf, and people who will try just about anything to win \$1,500.

The state of Florida will soon be sponsoring its first-ever Python Challenge, an open-to-the-public, month-long Burmese python hunting contest in four of the state's wildlife areas.

A grand prize of \$1,500 will be awarded to the hunter who kills the most pythons, and another \$1,000 goes

to the hunter who bags the longest snake.


The prizes will be awarded in two divisions: the novices; and those who already have python hunting permits.

The hunt, sponsored by the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, runs from Jan. 12 to Feb. 10. And its kickoff (step carefully?) event will feature a chef who specializes in exotic wildlife recipes.


"The FWC is encouraging the public to get involved in helping us remove Burmese pythons from the public

lands in South Florida," announced Kristen Sommers, the Exotic Species Coordination Section head of the agency.

What can go wrong? After all, roaming around the swampy heart of Florida looking for 15-foot reptiles can't be as tricky as voting. "Part of the goal of the Python Challenge is to educate the public to understand why non-native species like Burmese pythons should never be released into the wild," Sommers said in a prepared statement. □



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# Police arrest, spray protesters at Michigan Senate



Union workers fill the entire of the Capitol rotunda in Lansing, Mich., Thursday, Dec. 6, 2012. Hundreds of chanting and cheering protesters streamed back into the Michigan Capitol after receiving a court order saying that the building must reopen. The pro-union crowd walked in as lawmakers were debating right-to-work legislation limiting union powers. The Republican-led House subsequently passed the bill with no Democratic support. (AP Photo/Carlos Osorio)

**JEFF KAROUB**  
**JOHN FLESHER**  
 Associated Press  
**LANSING, Michigan (AP)** — Police used pepper spray Thursday to subdue protesters trying to rush the Michigan state Senate after the governor and other Republican leaders announced they would press for quick approval of right-to-work legislation limiting union powers. The Michigan House voted 58-52 to approve the legislation Thursday afternoon, with only Republicans voting in favor. The Senate is debating similar legislation. Minority Democrats are offering a series of amendments, all of which majority

Republicans have voted down. Hours earlier, eight people were arrested for resisting and obstructing when they tried to push past two troopers guarding the Senate door, state Police Inspector Gene Adamczyk said. The Capitol was temporarily closed because of safety concerns but hundreds of chanting and cheering protesters streamed back Thursday afternoon after receiving a court order saying the building must reopen. The pro-union crowd walked in as lawmakers debated the right-to-work legislation. So-called right-to-work measures generally prohib-

it requiring unions from collecting fees from nonunion employees, which opponents say drains unions of money and weakens their ability to bargain for good wages and benefits. Supporters insist it would boost the economy and job creation. Should it become law in Michigan, it would give the right-to-work movement its strongest foothold yet in the indus-

try-heavy Rust Belt region, where organized labor already has suffered several body blows. Wisconsin's Republican Gov. Scott Walker pushed through a law last year that effectively ended collective bargaining rights for most public workers, leading to huge protests at the state Capitol and an effort to recall the governor. Walker survived the recall

referendum in June. A court battle over the law's constitutionality is ongoing. After repeatedly insisting during his first two years in office that right-to-work was not on his agenda, Michigan Gov. Rick Snyder reversed course Thursday, a month after voters defeated a ballot initiative that would have barred such measures under the state constitution. □



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# Morsi offers nothing to defuse Egypt crisis

**CAIRO (AP)** — Egyptian President Mohammed Morsi offered nothing concrete to defuse the country's worst political crisis in nearly two years in a nationally televised speech late Thursday, refusing to rescind a disputed constitution drafted by his allies or his decrees giving him near absolute powers.

A night after thousands of his supporters and opponents fought pitched battles outside his Cairo palace that left at least six dead and nearly 700 injured, he angrily accused some of the opposition protesters of serving remnants of the old regime.

He vowed never to tolerate anyone working for the overthrow of his "legitimate" government.

Some among the thousands of opposition protesters gathered near his palace raised their shoes in contempt as

they listened to him. Others broke into the iconic Arab Spring chant of "the

position to a "comprehensive and productive" dialogue starting Saturday at

meaningful concessions. The opposition has already stated that it would

ers and shelve the constitution draft hurriedly adopted by his Islamist allies.

He said the referendum on the disputed charter, at the heart of the crisis, will go ahead as scheduled on Dec. 15 despite opposition demands to shelve the document.

He also refused to rescind his decrees of Nov. 22 placing him above oversight of any kind, including by the courts, saying only that he was willing to annul one decree that gives him wide ranging powers to "protect" the nation and its revolution.

He did not say how he would do that or give any other details.

Morsi, elected in June, was reading from prepared notes but frequently broke off to improvise.

He wore a black tie in mourning for six people killed Wednesday in clashes. □



**Egyptian President Mohammed Morsi at the Presidential palace in Cairo, Egypt.**

(AP Photo/Maya Alleruzzo)

people want to topple the regime."

He also invited the op-

his presidential palace, but offered no sign at all that he might offer them any

not enter a dialogue with Morsi unless he first rescinds decrees giving him nearly unrestricted pow-



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O.P.I

# European leaders oppose issuing common debt

JAMES KANTER

© 2012 New York Times

**BRUSSELS** – Four of the European Union's top officials delivered their judgment Thursday on how best to shore up the eurozone.

The recommendations on how to steer the euro area out of its continuing debt crisis and prevent a similar catastrophe in the future were contained in a report titled "Towards a Genuine Economic and Monetary Union." The document, mainly written by Herman Van Rompuy, the president of the European Council, has been in the works for much of this year and will help set the agenda for European political leaders at their summit meeting in Brussels on Dec. 13-14.

Van Rompuy's co-authors were the European Central Bank president, Mario Draghi; the European Commission president, Jose Manuel Barroso; and Jean-Claude Juncker, the president of the Eurogroup of finance ministers from the 17 countries in the eurozone. In a victory for Germany and other prosperous northern European countries, the

officials rejected the idea that the eurozone issue debt backed by the 17 member states – something that would enable countries with weaker economies to borrow at rates similar to those of Germany. Instead, the paper suggested a way to achieve "common debt issuance without resorting to the mutualization of sovereign debt."

That would require a separate budget for the eurozone and, eventually, a central treasury with the capacity to sell bonds to finance structural overhauls across the currency area, cushion member states against sudden economic shocks and make it less likely that sovereign bailouts will be needed in the future. To participate, countries would have to agree to "contractual arrangements" that would commit them to addressing national weaknesses, like bottlenecks to growth and unemployment. That is the kind of conditionality designed to appeal to German sensibilities.

But that recommendation

will disappoint leaders from countries including France and Italy, which favor the issuance of shared debt in the form of so-called eurobonds. The report also played down the need for a eurozone system of bank deposit guarantees.

Instead, the report suggested that a single supervisor under the aegis of the European Central Bank would ensure "strict and impartial" oversight of banks. This would be combined with a system to cover the cost of shutting down failing lend-

ers in an orderly way. That, the report says, would help prevent frail banks from endangering national finances and pushing countries toward the need for full bailouts. At the summit meeting next week, Van Rompuy is expected to seek a firm agreement on setting up a bank resolution fund by the end of 2014, financed mainly by levies on the banks themselves rather than by taxpayers.

But if finance ministers fail to reach agreement on how to establish the new banking supervisor at a gathering on the eve of the meeting, European leaders would arrive the next day without a cornerstone in place for the reforms envisioned by Van Rompuy and his co-authors. □



European Central Bank president Mario Draghi, is seen during a panel discussion in Paris. (AP Photo/Michel Euler)

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## Dutch call off search for 6 missing crewmen

**TOBY STERLING**  
**Associated Press**

**AMSTERDAM (AP)** — Rescuers called off search efforts for six missing crewmen Thursday from a cargo ship that sank in the North Sea after a collision with another vessel. The presumed death toll is 11 — taking into account the missing and five bodies found so far.

A day after the Baltic Ace capsized in international waters off Netherlands' southern coast, search helicopters, planes and coast guard ships were called back to their bases amid icy conditions. "Given the water temperature and the amount of time that's passed, we don't have any hope for more survivors," Peter Westenberg of the Dutch coast guard said. Westenberg said passing ships were still being notified by radio to remain alert for possible human remains. The 148-meter (485-foot) Baltic Ace sank Wednesday evening after colliding with the 134-meter (440-foot) container ship Corvus J near busy shipping lanes. The cause of

the collision wasn't known. Thirteen members of the ship's 24-man crew were rescued after the collision. The Dutch waterways agency has located the spot of the wreck about 65 kilometers (40 miles) from land, and marked out the area with buoys. A ship is



**Ships taking part in the rescue operation for sunken cargo ship Baltic Ace are seen in high waves Dec. 6, 2012. Rescuers called off search efforts for six missing crewmen.**

(AP Photo/Royal Dutch Navy)

posted near the spot to help guide shipping traffic. The agency said it is in contact with the ship's owner about possible salvage operations. The Baltic Ace, carrying a cargo of cars, sank quickly as the crew

with the Polish Embassy in The Hague, said that in addition to the two Polish crewmembers who have been confirmed dead, three are missing and six crew, including the Polish captain, were recovering

after being rescued.

"They were all well-qualified for their jobs," said Mariusz Lenckowski, of the agency that employed the Polish seamen. He said the Baltic Ace was built in the Gdynia shipyard in Poland in 2007. The Baltic Ace, sailing under a Bahamas flag, was heading from the Belgian port of Zeebrugge to Kotka in Finland, and the Cyprus-registered Corvus J was on its way from Grangemouth in Scotland to Antwerp, Belgium. Photos of the Corvus J published by the coast guard showed serious damage to its prow, but it was not considered in danger of sinking. Its 12-man crew was unharmed and had assisted in the search Wednesday, but Thursday it sailed to Vlissingen, Netherlands, for repairs. Sandra Groenendal of the Dutch Safety Board said responsibility for investigating the crash lies with the states under whose flags the ships were sailing — the Bahamas and Cyprus — because the collision happened outside Dutch territorial waters. □

## Hackers said to hit UN talks in Dubai: AP

**DUBAI, United Arab Emirates (AP)** — Organizers of a U.N. conference on global telecommunications said Thursday that hackers apparently blocked their website and disrupted the talks, a gathering some critics fear could lead to greater controls over the Internet.

The U.N.'s International Telecommunications Union said the website was hit late Wednesday, blocking access to its main page and interfering with a closed-door working group. It says it is still investigating but initial signs point to hackers.

The statement says Internet traffic was diverted to a backup website for two hours before normal operations resumed. Officials at the conference, which brings together nearly 2,000 delegates from 193 nations, say the incident underscores the need for better cyber-security coordination. □

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# Protestant militants targeting Northern Ireland party

SHAWN POGATCHNIK

Associated Press

**DUBLIN (AP)** — Northern Ireland leaders appealed for calm Thursday after Protestant militants attacked offices and a home connected to the most compromise-minded political party over its support for reducing the display of British flags on government buildings.

The overnight violence in two Belfast suburbs came on the eve of U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton's planned visit Friday to the capital of the British territory. It underscored how divided Northern Ireland remains despite the broad success of a peace process that has stopped paramilitary violence but done little to bring down barriers between rival British Protestant and Irish Catholic communities.

"I'm looking forward to my visit to Belfast tomorrow to see for myself what the situation is," Clinton said at a Dublin press conference alongside Irish Prime Minister Enda Kenny. Protestant hard-liners have responded violently to a

vote Monday in the Belfast City Council to reduce sharply the flying of the British flag atop the city hall. The Alliance Party, which represents middle-ground



Police Service of Northern Ireland officers move forward to protect Belfast City Hall as a Protestant mob approaches, in Northern Ireland. (AP Photo/Peter Morrison)

opinion and seeks support from both sides of the community, holds the balance of power on the council. Alliance voted with the Catholic side to take down the flag except for 18 official days annually; the Protestants had wanted it to stay up 365 days a year.

Several hundred Protestant protesters broke through the city hall's gates Monday night and injured 15

policemen defending the building. Associated Press photographer Peter Morrison suffered serious head and hand wounds during the melee, during which he

says police beat him with clubs.

On Wednesday night more than 1,500 Protestants rallied in the northern suburb of Carrickfergus demanding that the British flag be restored atop Belfast's municipal headquarters. The protest soon descended into attacks on riot police. Four officers were injured and responded with volleys of British-style plastic

bullets, flat-nosed cylinders designed to knock down rioters with punishing blows. They also arrested four suspected rioters.

Some in the crowd set fire to the nearby Carrickfergus office of Alliance, destroying it.

And to the east of Belfast, more vandals poured petrol on the locked front of another Alliance office in Bangor, but police said a passing police patrol spotted the attackers and forced them to flee before they could light a fire.

Also in Bangor, a couple who are both Alliance poli-

ticians had their home's front window vandalized just after midnight Thursday, and said they now were afraid to stay in their home with their 17-month-old daughter.

"Our daughter could have potentially lost her life. Is a flag worth this, seriously?" Michael Bower told the BBC sitting on his living room sofa, with his wife Christine beside him and their child on his lap.

Christine Bower appealed directly to the attackers: "You may not agree with us, but please don't attack us." □

# Monti government under fire as Berlusconi picks up support

COLLEEN BARRY  
VICTOR L. SIMPSON

Associated Press

**ROME (AP)** — Concerns over the stability of the Italian government grew on Thursday after Silvio Berlusconi's party withdrew its support from Premier Mario Monti, threatening to bring a premature end to the administration's ambitious reforms program.

Expressing disappointment over Italy's stagnant economy, Berlusconi's center-right PDL party abstained from two confidence votes Thursday, one in the Senate and one in the lower Chamber of Deputies.

Although the government of unelected technocrats won both votes by a wide margin, investors were concerned that there could be a new period of political uncertainty because Monti

had lost the support of Berlusconi's party, the largest bloc in Parliament.

Monti declined to weigh in on the political fray, telling a news conference his government was "going ahead with its work." Monti was appointed to replace Berlusconi, who resigned last year when financial markets lost confidence in his ability to steer Italy through its worsening sovereign debt crisis.

Many credit the current Prime Minister with bringing back some market confidence in the country, pulling it back from the edge of financial disaster it was teetering on last year.

"There is the whiff of crisis," political scientist Roberto D'Alimonte of Rome's LU-SS University said on Sky TV 24. "We will see in the next hours." President Giorgio

Napolitano in public comments acknowledged that the political climate was tensing up, as campaigns gear up to elect a new government early next year, when Monti's mandate expires. Napolitano could dissolve Parliament a few months earlier if he feels that the government no longer has wide support in Parliament. But, even as financial markets dropped on the news of the abstentions, Napolitano warned against a "precipitous" conclusion of Parliament as he takes the pulse of Italy's top political parties.

Berlusconi's top political aide and designated political heir, Angelino Alfano, insisted that the media mogul's party had no intention of sparking a crisis that could bring down the government. □

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# McAfee hospitalized after being denied asylum

**SONIA PEREZ-DIAZ**

**Associated Press**

**GUATEMALA CITY (AP)** —

Software company founder John McAfee was hospitalized Thursday after being denied political asylum in Guatemala and his lawyers said they were making a last-ditch effort to keep him from being flown back to Belize for questioning about the killing of a fellow American expatriate.

McAfee told The Associated Press that he suffered chest pains overnight but didn't believe he had a heart attack. A government doctor who examined him agreed, saying that McAfee's heart rhythm and blood pressure were normal and that he appeared to be suffering from high stress.

McAfee was moved from an immigration center to a police-run hospital Thursday afternoon after Guatemalan authorities said McAfee's request for asylum had been denied. They did not explain why. Shortly after the decision was announced, McAfee issued a plea on his blog for the public to petition Guatemalan President Otto Perez Molina to let him stay.

"Please email the President of Guatemala and beg him to allow the court system to proceed, to determine my status in Guatemala, and please support the political asylum that I am asking

for," the post read.

McAfee's legal team said they were preparing to appeal the denial of asylum to the country's constitutional court, a process that could give McAfee perhaps another day or two in Guatemala.

The court would have to issue a decision within 48 hours.



**Software company founder John McAfee in an immigration detention center in Guatemala City, Thursday, Dec. 6, 2012. McAfee was hospitalized Thursday after being denied political asylum in Guatemala and his lawyers said they were making a last-ditch effort to keep him from being flown back to Belize for questioning about the killing of a fellow American expatriate. (AP Photo)**

McAfee's complaints of chest pain prompted authorities to move him from the immigration center where he had been held overnight. He had been taken to the center after his arrest for illegally entering the country after a bizarre weeklong journey as a self-styled fugitive with an active blog and constant contact with the press.

During an exclusive interview with the AP Thursday morning from inside his private room at the center, McAfee said he was refusing to travel to a hospital because he had been using Chinese herbal medicine since suffering a heart attack in 1993.

"Last night I had a little bit of pain, but I am fine this

morning," he said. "I don't like Western medicine ... if the people around me are kind and compassionate, that's all that matters in life. The people of Guatemala are very kind people, so I have no complaints."

A couple of hours later, an AP reporter returned to McAfee's room and found him changed into a suit but lying on the floor as he

was examined by a doctor. Shortly after, he was taken to the police hospital.

Belizean police spokesman Raphael Martinez said officials expected McAfee to be flown back to his country's capital. Police want to question him about the fatal shooting of killing of Gregory Viant Faull, who was shot to death in early November on the Belize island where both men lived. There is no warrant for McAfee's arrest, so it is possible his self-initiated flight from Belizean authority could end up with him free to roam the Caribbean island where he lived for years, often clashing with neighbors and authorities over allegations he kept aggressive dogs, weapons and drug paraphernalia on his property.

The Faull family has said through a representative that the murder of their loved one on Ambergris Caye has gotten lost in the media frenzy provoked by McAfee's manipulation of the media through phone calls, emails and blog posts detailing his life on the lam. McAfee updated his blog Thursday after being given a computer by the warden at the immigration center in Guatemala City, a three-story building with mesh-covered windows and barbed-wire on the roof.

McAfee said U.S. Embassy officials had said they

couldn't help him with a request to be returned to the United States instead of Belize.

McAfee said he had formally requested asylum in Guatemala because he fears for his safety in Belize because he has sensitive information about official corruption and refused to donate to local politicians. Guerra warned Wednesday night that the 67-year-old McAfee's life would be in danger if he is sent back to Belize.

"He will be in danger if he is returned to Belize, where he has denounced authorities," Guerra said.

"From the moment he asked for asylum he has to have the protection of the Guatemalan government."

Police in Belize deny they are persecuting McAfee and say there is no warrant for his arrest. The country's prime minister has questioned McAfee's mental state.

McAfee went on the run last month after officials tried to question him about the killing of Faull, who was shot to death in early November.

McAfee acknowledges that his dogs were bothersome and that Faull had complained about them, but denies killing Faull. Faull's home was a couple of houses down from McAfee's compound. □

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## Manchebo Resort hosts a unique weekend of Great Food & Fine Wines: The Mediterranean Meets the Caribbean at Ike's Bistro!

**EAGLE BEACH** – The Manchebo Beach Resort & Spa will celebrate the official opening of its new Ike's Bistro this weekend with a series of culinary events, announced today at an informal cocktail party hosted by Chef Ever de Peña, restaurant staff and resort management.

Ike's Bistro will be offering four nights of great food and fine wines on Saturday December 8th, Sunday, December 9th, Monday, December 10th and Tuesday, December 11. The restaurant will feature a delightful Surprise 4-Course Tasting Dinner paired with wine, priced at \$48. - per person.

The restaurant's theme - Where the Mediterranean Meets the Caribbean - will be explored during those four days by Chef Ever in collaboration with a visit-

ing French celebrity chef, Alberto Ughetto, from Provence, France.

The two culinary giants will be preparing signature dishes and their own specialties each night, paired with an award winning selection of wines. Two wines by Marques de Caceres, one white, Young White 2011, and one red, Crianza Rioja 2007. Maison Louis Latour, will be represented by the Ardeche Chardonnay, 2010, and Wente Vineyard will highlight its Morning Fog Chardonnay, 2010. The wines were carefully paired by local wine expert Govert van der Hout, who worked with Chef Ever with the goal of presenting a veritable feast.

Hurry up and make your reservation by calling Ike's Bistro at tel.: 5823444, or e-mail: Reserve@manchebo.com!



About chef Ever: Just 26 years of age, the chef has nevertheless been cooking for the past 11 years. Born and raised in Aruba he entered the apprenticeship program at the local vocational high school at the age of 15, and for five years combined school

and hands-on training, in some of Aruba's finest restaurants under the watchful eye of the island's top chefs. While the first dish he ever prepared as a young man was Pasta Primavera, he today deftly composes beautiful dishes with subtle and complex flavors, under-promising and over-delivering, on taste and on presentation, each time!

About chef Alberto: Our celebrity chef has cooked for luminaries such as Richard Nixon, at Café Martinique on Paradise Island and for Gerald Ford at Mirabelle, Beaver Creek, Colorado. He dazzled President George Bush with his specialties, while working for the Governor's Club in Tallahassee, Florida and



entertained governors, movie stars and sports celebrities. Active member of the Chaine des Rotisseurs, since 1985 and an active member of the American Culinary Federation since 1976, he is a talented and accomplished chef with over forty years of experience, having worked in France, Monte Carlo, the Bahamas, Germany, Portugal, the British West Indies and the United States. He is a fan of Aruba and the Manchebo Beach Resort and a regular repeat visitor to the island.

About Ike's Bistro: A contemporary marriage of Mediterranean and Caribbean cooking. The menu was inspired by the founder of the Manchebo Beach Resort & Spa, the late hotelier Ike Cohen who is credited with jumpstarting Aruba's culinary quest for excellence, since his arrival on the island in the 60s. □



**At the Palm Beach Plaza Mall:**

**Artist Marian Abath is December's Caribbean Queen**

**PALM BEACH** – The Caribbean Queen at the Palm Beach Plaza Mall has been honoring one local female artist who lives and creates here, every month. The Caribbean Queen program was launched since the store opened in late December, 2011. For the store's first anniversary, for the month of December 2012, local glass artist Marian Abath is Caribbean Queen, prominently displaying her beautiful and bold artwork in the store.

The glass objects made by Marian Abath find their roots in her love for nature. The colors of Aruba are re-

flected in the glass paperweights she creates, as well as in her jewelry. Marian works with different internationally acclaimed glass techniques such as fusing, kiln casting, glass blowing and flame working. "I love working with the torch", she explains, "as it allows me to dedicate time, concentrating on my own thoughts and my own hands creating what I like." Marian was not born on Aruba, but she has been living here for the past 15 years and it is here where her passion for glass art started. Marian came to the island as an educational scientist, a

role she still plays working as a policy-maker at the Department of Education. Fortunately, her marriage to local artist Ciro Abath opened new opportunities for her, opportunities which she seized with both hands, she says, assisting him in his artwork, applying different techniques, and slowly discovering her own preferred materials and ideas.

Marian then traveled to specialize in flame working and glass blowing in Istanbul, Turkey, New York and the Netherlands. She participated in Voorop, given by the famed Rietveld Art Academy and took classes



in silver smithing, in order to finalize her glass pieces into jewelry. She participated in art exhibitions on Aruba as well as abroad, however she prefers to label herself as an artisan instead of an artist. "In jewelry," she explains, "the message is optional. An object can just be beautiful on its own, distinguished by its color or the kind of material used. Each piece is unique and has a story of its own".

In 2008 Marian and her husband Ciro launched Terrafuse –Aruba Glass & Ceramics, a foundation designed to promote the art of glass and ceramics on the island of Aruba. A couple of years before that, they opened the first glass studio here. Nowadays, Marian teaches bead-making workshops to beginners and advanced bead-makers twice a week and the studio is open for visitors during those hours. She also teaches local youth, between the ages of 14 and 25, an initiative supported by Terrafuse foundation and the Aruban government (UNOCA), keeping the price of the workshops low, aiming to teach the art form, yet also broaden students' ho-

rizons, letting them find out what they can do with their hands. "Even after teaching the beginners' workshop 100 times, I don't get bored," Marian states, "as it is a privilege to open the world of glass to people. It makes people proud of themselves and their accomplishments at making their own unique glass creations." The Marian Abath collection at Caribbean Queen includes colorful jewelry and art objects. Her work will be on display for the whole month of December. Everyone is invited to stop by the Caribbean Queen, on the first floor of the Palm Beach Plaza Mall, to browse and perhaps even make a purchase, as it is the season of giving. A percentage of the each purchase is earmarked for an art-supporting charity on the island, such as The Pancake Gallery, Atelier 89 and The Aruba International Arts Foundation, AIAF, under the store's Repair of the World, Tikkun Olam program.

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**Beauty On The Beach**

*Ana Paula*

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# Angela Casalino honored at Caribbean Palm Village Resort

**NOORD** – Interim General manager Astrid Muller and the Treasurer of the Board Randy Croes thanked Angela Casalino for her patronage and support over the past 25 years. Angela has been coming to Aruba since 1987 when she bought her timeshare unit at the still under construction vacation village. She remembers looking at the model-unit and thinking to herself, will my two-bedroom suite be there next year, as promised?! Throwing caution to the wind Angela showed up on Aruba in 1988 with nine other friends and checked into her accommodations as planned enjoying a wonderful time with her travel companions, some of whom also bought their own vacation timeshare units that year. We have been celebrating the resort's anniversary all year, explains Astrid Muller, we are happy to commemorate our quarter-of-a-century milestone, with our guests!



The charming vacation village inspired by South Beach, Miami and the art deco district is Aruba's best-kept-secret vacation destination. Tucked into the Noord neighborhood, the village is a self-contained oasis of tranquility and charm. At this week's manager's cocktail party, Angela, posing here in the picture with Richard Olsen, was presented with a commemorative plaque, which she gratefully accepted stating that she made good use of her purchase, and never regretted join-

ing the Caribbean Palm Village family. Farley Croes of the activities department entertained guests



with music, games and fun contests lending the gathering a cozy, friendly and welcoming ambiance.

Pictured here the crowd learns some Carnival dancing, with Scabechi's restaurant manager. □



Richi Faria working at F&B department in the Tamarijn beach hotel

"Hats Off to the Man of The Week!"

**MAN OF THE WEEK**



## At the Renaissance Mall and Marketplace:

# Deck The Halls With Boughs of Holly, 'Tis The Season To Be Jolly!

**ORANJESTAD** -- The Renaissance Mall is proud to show off its contemporary Christmas decorations, with a large fully lit Christmas tree as the focal point of attention in the Mall and a whimsical Santa's giant chest with gifts at the Marketplace.

This year's colors at the Renaissance Mall are green, red and gold with a touch of white, while the more traditional green and red is used in the Renaissance Marketplace. Santa and his huge chest filled with toys provide a perfect picture opportunity, against the backdrop of three gorgeous Christmas trees with interlaced bows and bells.

With the palm trees all lit up with twinkling lights, and the columns wrapped in glittering garlands the malls are ready to receive visitors during extended store opening hours in December, which are 10 am to 8 pm.

Both malls already enjoyed much foot-traffic from October through the beginning of December as Island Extravaganza unfolded, and drew a record crowd last weekend when the popular promotion concluded with a mega giveaway.

The Renaissance Mall boasts an extensive collection of international brands with Rolex, Cartier, Chopard, Louis Vuitton, Bulgari, Gandelman, Colombian Emeralds International, David Yurman, Coach, Tag Heuer and

Gucci among them. It is also home to famed apparel brands such as Ralph Laurent, Custo Barcelona, Guess, Guess Kids, Carolina Herrera, Vilebrequin, Michael Kors, BCBG, Max Azaria & Lacoste. The mall

embraces dedicated Furla and Longchamps boutiques, men's underwear by Calvin Klein, Jeans by Diesel & Hilfiger, shoes by Aldo and Crocs, men's couture by Ermenegildo Zegna, Adolfo Domínguez,

La Martina and Faconable, fragrances and cosmetics by DUFREY, Yves Rocher, and local brands such as Eva Boutique, Entre Nous, Sunspecs, Liquortique, Monalisa and Aruba Aloe. The mall is also graced with a number of great eateries such as Aquarius, L.G. Steak & Chop House, Ci Gusto ice cream and a popular Starbucks cafe.

The Renaissance Marketplace is home to the Cinemas with six spacious theaters and many successful and diverse eateries with Cuba's Cookin', CILO - City Lounge, Spanglish, Café the Plaza, Casa Tua Pizzeria, Hopi Bon Grill, Hung Paradise, Tropical Café, The Dutch Pancake House, Sushi-Ya, the Next Door Bar & Starbucks Café among them, beside Haagen Dazs ice cream, Yogen Fruz desserts and a number of popular stores such as Mopa Mopa, Champagne, City Fashions, Rage Silver, Sunspecs and Maggy's Beauty Salon, besides Discovery Travel and the Renaissance Marina office.

Deck the halls in boughs of holly, tis the season to be jolly, at the Renaissance Mall & Marketplace. □





SPORTS

Aruba TODAY

## NHL Lockout Stalemate resumes after deal seems near

By JEFF Z. KLEIN

Donald Fehr, the executive director of the players union, had just finished a news conference Thursday in which he described the union's latest offer to end the N.H.L. lockout, and how it put the two sides close to an agreement. Players were expressing guarded optimism to reporters about returning to the ice.

That was when Fehr's brother Steve, the union's special counsel, checked his voice mail.

It was N.H.L. Deputy Commissioner Bill Daly, rejecting the union's proposal.

"We were advised in a voice mail message that the moves the players made were not acceptable," Donald Fehr said a few minutes later after reconvening the news conference, "and that something, everything — that's not clear — was off the table." It was the latest twist in what Commissioner Gary Bettman later described as the "emotional roller coaster" of the 82-day lockout, and a sour end to a week that started with optimism on both sides that a settlement was within reach.

Now the stalemate and rancor that have marked these talks for weeks have returned, stronger than ever. Bettman and Daly later said there would be no further talks on Thursday or Friday so that the two sides could "take a breath," but the language they used in their news conference later Thursday was charged with bitter disappointment.



Continued on Page 18

# Federer hopes to play 2016 Games in Rio

TALES AZZONI

AP Sports Writer

SAO PAULO (AP) —

Roger Federer says he won't play as often in the next few years and hopes to compete in the 2016 Olympics in Rio de Janeiro.

The 31-year-old Federer says he'll be more mindful about the tournaments he plays in the future to make sure he can continue playing at a high level.

"I have to make sure that I take care of my schedule, of my body, of my mind," he said on Thursday. "Hopefully I can still stay on tour for many more years and hopefully play the Olympics here in three and a half years or so, so I have to look far ahead and not just the next six months."

The winner of 17 Grand Slams is in Sao Paulo hosting exhibition matches involving Maria Sharapova, Victoria Azarenka, Serena Williams, Caroline Wozniacki, Jo-Wilfried Tsonga, Tommy Robredo, Tommy Haas and Thomaz Bellucci. The Bryan brothers, Bob and Mike, are also participating. Federer plays Bellucci, Brazil's top-ranked player, on Thursday.



Tennis players, Roger Federer, of Switzerland, and Maria Sharapova of Russia hold a press conference to promote the Gillette Federer Tour, in Sao Paulo, Brazil, Thursday, Dec. 6, 2012.

Associated Press

The Swiss player has competed in four Olympics for a doubles gold in 2008 and singles silver this year, and he said he would love to make it to the Rio Games.

"There is a lot of passion for sports here," he said. "It's a hot place to play tennis right now."

Federer, who ended the season No. 2 in the world, said this year was especially difficult for him because he also committed to the Davis Cup and London Games,

which took him away from practice and from spending time with his family.

"I've played a lot of tennis. It's been a big challenge, especially with the Olympics and the Davis Cup this year," he said.

"I'd like to be home a little bit more often and in a relaxed fashion."

Still, he said it was a rewarding season.

"I'm very happy that I'm still playing at a very high level," said Federer, who

won six titles this year, including Wimbledon. "I had one of my best years on tour this year, and one of the most emotional ones, of course. Next year tournament victories will probably be more important than the rankings, that's why I need to make sure I practice a lot next year."

Federer played 19 tournaments in 2012, two more than top-ranked Novak Djokovic. No. 3 Andy Murray also played 19 and Ra-

fael Nadal, nursing a knee injury, played only 11.

"I'm not going to play 25 tournaments, but every tournament that I will be playing I'll be emotionally attached to it, because I either won there before or because I've been there many times or because I love the city or the country and the fans," he said. "Today I've reached a point in my life that I can pick and choose where I want to play and how much I want to play."

One of the tournaments he left out of his 2013 schedule was Miami, the Masters event in March he has played since 1999 and won twice. "Miami was a tough decision for me," he said. "But I have to take some time off, first of all, but most importantly, I need to practice. This year I couldn't practice at all. Something had to go in the calendar and that was Miami, unfortunately." Federer said he thinks he will need two Grand Slams and five to eight titles in other tournaments to get back to No. 1. "It's difficult, but I'm happy to set that challenge and I'll give everything I have," he said. □

Continued from page 17

"This is not the first time he described things as close when they weren't," Bettman said of Fehr. "I don't know why he did that. I find it almost incomprehensible that he did that."

Bettman added that the sense of optimism that prevailed on Tuesday and Wednesday "almost inexplicably disappeared" once bargaining resumed Thursday.

During the initial news conference, Donald Fehr outlined the agreements he said the union and the league had come to over the previous two days of bargaining, and the proposals the union presented to Daly and Bob Batters-



NHL commissioner Gary Bettman speaks to reporters after an NHL Board of Governors meeting, Wednesday, Dec. 5, 2012 in New York. The league and the players' association have cleared their schedules with progress being made in collective bargaining talks.

Associated Press

man, a league counsel, early Thursday evening.

Fehr said the union and the league had agreed on

pensions. He added that the players and owners were "close" on provisions

to make whole current con-

tracts under a lower salary cap. He said the players proposed a seven-year limit to contracts, only two years over the owners' demand of five years.

But Daly said a five-year limit to contracts was of utmost importance to owners.

"That is the hill we will die on," Daly said.

As Bettman and Fehr spoke, Ron Hainsey, Manny Malhotra and a small group of other players entered the room, stood in the back and listened impassively. Hainsey said the players were not present to comment but simply wanted to hear what Bettman was saying.

The N.H.L. schedule has already been canceled

through Dec. 14. Further cancellations of games are expected soon.

Bettman has not announced a date for the 2012-13 season to be canceled. In the last lockout, in 2004-5, he canceled the season when no settlement was reached by Feb. 16. □



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## Bryant eclipses 30,000, Lakers beat Hornets 103-87

**NEW ORLEANS (AP)** — Kobe Bryant scored 29 points, making him the fifth player in NBA history to score 30,000 as the Los Angeles Lakers snapped a two-game losing streak with a 103-87 victory over the New Orleans Hornets on Wednesday.

Bryant entered the game needing only 13 points to eclipse the scoring milestone and did so with a short jumper late in the first half that was perhaps the least spectacular of his baskets, which included the usual array of soaring dunks, demoralizing transition 3-pointers and turnaround, off-balance jumpers.

At 34 years old, Bryant is the youngest to reach the milestone.

Wilt Chamberlain was 35 when he hit the mark, Kareem Abdul-Jabbar and Karl Malone were each 36 and Michael Jordan was 38.

Dwight Howard added 18 points for the Lakers, who trailed by a point at half-time but seized control with a 13-0 run to open the third quarter, and the lead grew as large as 20.

Ryan Anderson scored 31 for New Orleans and Greivis Vasquez added 16 points.

### **SPURS 110, BUCKS 99**

**SAN ANTONIO (AP)** — Tony Parker and Gary Neal each scored 22 points, and San Antonio had a season-high 53 rebounds in the win over Milwaukee.

Tim Duncan added 17 points and 10 rebounds for the Spurs. Tiago Splitter had 15 points, Manu Ginobili scored 11 and Matt Bonner had a season-high 12 rebounds.

Monta Ellis had 21 points and 11 assists for Milwaukee. Brandon Jennings

added 14 points and Ersan Ilyasova scored all of his 17 points in the first half.

San Antonio, which went on a 36-15 run bridging the final two quarters to pull away, outrebounded Milwaukee 53-36, including a 28-17 advantage in the second half.

### **KNICKS 100, BOBCATS 98**

**CHARLOTTE, North Carolina (AP)** — J.R. Smith hit a fallaway jumper from the left wing as time expired to give New York a win over Charlotte.

The Bobcats appeared in position to win after a miss by Raymond Felton with 14 seconds left, but rookie Michael Kidd-Gilchrist made an ill-advised pass and Smith intercepted it.

After a timeout, Smith drove to the left side and hit an 18-footer over Kidd-Gilchrist.

Carmelo Anthony scored 20 of his 23 points in the first half for New York and Tyson Chandler had 18 points and 17 rebounds.

Kemba Walker scored 25 points for the Bobcats.

### **CLIPPERS 112, MAVERICKS 90**

**LOS ANGELES (AP)** — Blake Griffin had 19 points and 13 rebounds, and Chris Paul added 14 points and 13 assists, propelling Los Angeles over Dallas for its fourth straight victory.

Jamal Crawford had 20 points, Caron Butler scored 16 and DeAndre Jordan 12 for the Clippers, who shot 50 percent and dominated the entire game, keeping Dallas owner Mark Cuban glued to his seat with his chin cupped in his left hand.

Reserve Vince Carter scored 16 points for Dallas. Derek Fisher added 15 points, and Shawn Marion and Chris Kaman had 14



Los Angeles Lakers shooting guard Kobe Bryant (24) is greeted by point guard Chris Duhon (21) at the end of the first half of an NBA basketball game against the New Orleans Hornets in New Orleans, Wednesday, Dec. 5, 2012.

Associated Press

points apiece for the Mavericks, who fell to 2-7 on the road.

### **PACERS 99, TRAIL BLAZERS 92**

**INDIANAPOLIS (AP)** — Paul George scored 22 points and George Hill added 18 to help Indiana beat Portland.

David West had 16 points and 10 rebounds for the Pacers (10-9), who have won four of five and moved above .500 for the first time since a 2-1 start.

Damian Lillard led Portland with 23 points.

Wesley Matthews scored 19, LaMarcus Aldridge had 18 points and 10 rebounds, and J.J. Hickson had 14 points and 12 rebounds for the Trail Blazers.

Indiana outscored Portland 31-14 in the third quarter to take control. The Blazers made a push in the fourth but could get no closer than four.

### **CELTICS 104, TIMBER-**

### **WOLVES 94**

**BOSTON (AP)** — Kevin Garnett had 18 points and 10 rebounds and remained unbeaten against his former team as Boston beat Minnesota in Rajon Rondo's return from a two-game suspension.

The Celtics improved to 10-0 against Minnesota since they acquired Garnett from the Timberwolves during the summer of 2007. Boston went 1-1 without Rondo, suspended for his role in a scuffle during a game against the Brooklyn Nets last Wednesday. Rondo had 17 points and 11 assists, Paul Pierce scored 18, Jason Terry 17 and Brandon Bass 12 for the Celtics.

Kevin Love had 19 points and 13 rebounds, and Nikola Pekovic scored 14 for the T-Wolves.

**WARRIORS 104, PISTONS 97**  
**AUBURN HILLS, Michigan (AP)** — Klay Thompson scored 19 of his 27 points

in the third quarter to help Golden State pull away to beat Detroit.

The Warriors, starting a seven-game Eastern trip, snapped Detroit's five-game winning streak at home.

Golden State has won two straight games in Detroit after losing 25 of 29.

Stephen Curry finished with 22 points and 10 assists, his fourth straight 20-10 game, while David Lee added 20 points and 11 rebounds for the Warriors.

Tayshaun Prince was the only Pistons starter to reach double figures with 24 points. Rodney Stuckey had 17 points and fellow reserve Andre Drummond had 15 points and 12 rebounds.

### **HAWKS 108, NUGGETS 104**

**ATLANTA (AP)** — Josh Smith's steal, jam and free throw with 31 seconds remaining extended Atlanta's lead and the Hawks held on to beat Denver.

Smith had 16 points and 13 rebounds on his 27th birthday, while Al Horford led the Hawks with 25 points and 12 rebounds.

Ty Lawson paced Denver with a season-high 32 points and Corey Brewer added 19.

Lawson's 3-pointer gave the Nuggets a 101-99 advantage before Horford hit a tying jumper.

Lou Williams made two free throws to put Atlanta up by two before Smith stole the ball from Lawson and completed a fast break with a dunk over Brewer, who was called for a foul.

### **BULLS 95, CAVALIERS 85**

**CLEVELAND (AP)** — Marco Belinelli scored a season-high 23 points, Luol Deng added 22 and Chicago took control early on to beat Cleveland. □

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# Keppinger, Chavez, Blanton & Bay at new clubs

**BEN WALKER**

**AP Baseball Writer**

**NASHVILLE, Tennessee (AP)**

— Jeff Keppinger, Joe Blanton and Jason Bay were among the players signing with new clubs in Wednesday's Major League Baseball trade talks while top contenders waited for a pair of leading free agents to make their decisions.

Eric Chavez, Randy Choate and Sean Burnett also joined new teams.

Former MVP Josh Hamilton and former Cy Young Award winner Zack Greinke remained in play. They're the driving forces in this market and depending on where they go, more moves are likely to follow.

Texas would like to re-sign Hamilton, at the right price. The slugger was in Nashville for the talks this week but has left, and his agent met with Rangers general manager Jon Daniels on Tuesday.

"One of the bigger dominoes," Daniels said. "Trying to get the first one to fall." New York Mets pitcher R.A. Dickey keeps drawing attention. He lives near the Opryland Hotel and dropped in for a visit,



In this Aug. 25, 2012, file photo, New York Mets' Jason Bay drives in a run with a single to right field in the eighth inning of a baseball game against the Houston Astros in New York.

Associated Press

though there's no change in his situation. Signed for next season, he wants a new contract while several clubs, including Boston, want to trade for the reigning NL Cy Young winner. In the meantime, some deals stayed unresolved heading toward Thursday's last day of talks.

"We wondered if one of the

guys went off, (if) it would speed up. We'll see," Red Sox GM Ben Cherington said. "It seems like it may be moving a little bit."

Also in the mix is Cleveland shortstop Asdrubal Cabrera, amid speculation Arizona is trying to get him in a multi-team swap.

One deal that had been done was David Wright

re-signing with the Mets in a \$138 million, eight-year contract, the largest in team history. Speaking Wednesday, he said he wanted to spend his entire career with the club.

"I've never pictured myself in a different uniform," he said.

"It just feels like there's so much unfinished business and I'd like to finish what I've started," he added. "Honestly, it wouldn't mean as much to me winning somewhere else as it would winning here."

Keppinger agreed with the Chicago White Sox on a \$12 million, three-year contract, a person familiar with the deal told The Associated Press on condition of anonymity because there was no announcement.

The versatile infielder hit .325 with a career-high nine home runs and 40 RBIs for Tampa Bay last season. At 32, the well-traveled Keppinger is known for making contact and has more walks than strikeouts during his eight-year career with the Rays, San Francisco, Houston, Cincinnati, Kansas City and the Mets.

Keppinger is likely to play

third base for the White Sox. Kevin Youkilis finished the season at that spot for Chicago last season, then became a free agent. The New York Yankees and Arizona also had been interested in Keppinger.

Arizona wound up with Chavez, giving the corner infielder a \$3 million, one-year contract, a person with knowledge of the deal said.

He was with the Yankees last season.

Bay and the Seattle Mariners agreed on a one-year deal, a person familiar with the negotiation said. The 34-year-old outfielder is hoping to resurrect his career after three disappointing and injury-plagued seasons with the Mets.

The Los Angeles Angels added Blanton and Burnett to their retooled pitching staff, and St. Louis signed Choate for its bullpen.

The Chicago Cubs and outfielder Nate Schierholtz closed in on a \$2.25 million, one-year contract, a person familiar with the negotiations said. Baltimore kept outfielder Nate McLouth and Colorado re-signed pitcher Jeff Francis. □



# Steelers' Roethlisberger to start against Chargers

**By WILL GRAVES**

**AP Sports Writer**

**PITTSBURGH (AP)** — The Pittsburgh Steelers aren't taking any chances with their franchise quarterback's sprained right shoulder and dislocated rib.

Pittsburgh Steelers quarterback Ben Roethlisberger looks up at the video board as he stands on the sidelines wearing a sling on his injured arm during the second quarter of an NFL football game.

Though the Steelers confirmed Ben Roethlisberger will return to the starting lineup on Sunday against San Diego after missing three weeks due to injury, Roethlisberger will take the field with a little extra protection.

Roethlisberger will play with a custom fit rib/chest compression shirt and a layer of Kevlar-lined composite in his shoulder pads to help absorb hits to his clavicle and shoulder joint regions. The padding, made by Unequal Technologies, has grown popular across the NFL. □

Associated Press

# Bradley, Steele return to Franklin Templeton Shootout

NAPLES, Florida (AP) — Keegan Bradley and Brendan Steele are defending their title in the Franklin Templeton Shootout, and Dustin Johnson and Ian Poulter also are back for the first time since winning the team event. "It's big," said Bradley, coming off a second-place finish on Sunday in Tiger Woods' World Challenge in California. "I get to play with Brendan, which is really fun, and I'm defending, which is even more fun." Last year, Bradley and Steele became the first U.S. PGA Tour rookies to win the Greg Norman-run tournament, shooting a 13-under 59 in the final-round scramble for a three-stroke victory. "It's rare that a plan goes

that well, especially with golf," Steele said. "You can do everything you're supposed to do, and it doesn't quite work out for you." Johnson and Poulter won in 2010, then skipped the event last year because of scheduling conflicts. "Our games are different, but yet they tie in very, very well in this format," Poulter said. The 12-team tournament begins on Friday at Tiburon — "shark" in Spanish — with a modified alternate-shot round. The team will play better ball on Saturday, and finish with a scramble on Sunday. Norman is teaming with Fredrik Jacobson, and the field also features the teams of Davis Love III-Brandt Snedeker, Bud

Cauley-Rickie Fowler, Justin Leonard-Scott Verplank, Jerry Kelly-Steve Stricker, Charles Howell III-Rory Sabbatini, Jason Dufner-Vijay Singh, Mark Calcavecchia-Mike Weir, Stewart Cink-Carl Pettersson and Sean O'Hair-Kenny Perry. Bradley and Steele use belly putters that they anchor to their bodies, a technique expected to be banned in 2016 in a proposed rule change. Bradley was heckled last week at Sherwood, with a fan calling him a cheater. "It's a weird time for players like myself and Brendan to have to deal with that," Bradley said. "I think we've all kind of handled it pretty well considering it's been a pretty drastic change." □



Keegan Bradley and Jim Furyk watch Bradley's tee shot on the 17th hole during the third round of the World Challenge golf tournament at Sherwood Country Club in Thousand Oaks, Calif., Saturday, Dec. 1, 2012.

Associated Press

# Feng still leading after 2nd round at Dubai Ladies



Feng Shanshan from China plays a ball on the 18th hole during the second round of Dubai Ladies Masters golf tournament in Dubai, United Arab Emirates, Thursday Dec. 6, 2012.

Associated Press

DUBAI, United Arab Emirates (AP) — Shanshan Feng birdied five of her first nine holes Thursday to shoot a 7-under 65 and take a four-stroke lead after the second round of the Dubai Ladies Masters.

Feng, the highest-ranked player in the field, had three more birdies on the back nine at the Emirates Golf Club for a total of 13-under 131.

"My putting was really good today," Feng said. "I

felt a little pressure in the beginning, but after those two birdies on the second and third the pressure was off.

"I'm still on the same page as the start. My goal is just top five."

Florentyna Parker, who shared the lead heading into the second round, shot a 2-over 74 to drop down the leaderboard.

Instead, Felicity Johnson (67) moved into second place, one stroke ahead of

Caroline Masson (68), Cindy Lacrosse (69), Joanna Klatten (65) and Gwladys Nocera (68).

Defending champion Lexi Thompson (68) is a stroke further back. The 17-year-old American survived blustery early morning conditions in Dubai and made four birdies through a bogey-free 18 holes.

"It was definitely a bit more windy, probably the most wind I've played in Dubai," Thompson said. □

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| NEW THIS WEEK |  <p><b>FEO LINDO DE DIA DE NOCHE</b></p> <p>Spanish Version</p> <p>Mon - Thurs 4:50 / 7:05 / 9:20<br/>Fri 4:50 / 7:05 / 9:20 / 11:35<br/>Sat 2:35 / 4:50 / 7:05 / 9:20 / 11:35<br/>Sun &amp; Hol 2:35 / 4:50 / 7:05 / 9:20</p> <p style="text-align: right;">NR</p>                      | <p>Fausto Mata      Frank Perozo</p>         |
| NEW THIS WEEK |  <p><b>THE MAN OF IRON FISTS</b></p> <p>With Spanish Subtitles</p> <p>Mon - Thurs 5:05 / 7:20 / 9:35<br/>Fri 5:05 / 7:20 / 9:35 / 11:50<br/>Sat 2:50 / 5:05 / 7:20 / 9:35 / 11:50<br/>Sun &amp; Hol 2:50 / 5:05 / 7:20 / 9:35</p> <p style="text-align: right;">R</p>                    | <p>Russell Crowe      RZA      Lucy Liu</p>  |
| NEW THIS WEEK |  <p><b>LIFE OF PI</b></p> <p>3D</p> <p>With Spanish Subtitles</p> <p>Mon - Thurs 5:10 / 8:00<br/>Fri 5:10 / 8:00 / 10:50<br/>Sat 2:20 / 5:10 / 8:00 / 10:50<br/>Sun &amp; Hol 2:20 / 5:10 / 8:00</p> <p style="text-align: right;">PG</p>  | <p>Irrfan Khan      Suraj Sharma</p>         |
| NEW THIS WEEK |  <p><b>RISE OF THE GUARDIANS</b></p> <p>3D Version</p> <p>with Spanish Subtitles</p> <p>Mon - Thurs 4:05 / 6:20 / 8:35<br/>Fri 4:05 / 6:20 / 8:35 / 10:50<br/>Sat 1:50 / 4:05 / 6:20 / 8:35 / 10:50<br/>Sun &amp; Hol 1:50 / 4:05 / 6:20 / 8:35</p> <p style="text-align: right;">PG</p> | <p>Chris Pine      Alec Baldwin</p>          |
| NEW THIS WEEK |  <p><b>breaking dawn</b></p> <p>With Spanish Subtitles</p> <p>Mon - Thurs 4:15 / 6:50 / 9:25<br/>Fri 4:15 / 6:50 / 9:25 / 11:55<br/>Sat 1:40 / 4:15 / 6:50 / 9:25 / 11:55<br/>Sun &amp; Hol 1:40 / 4:15 / 6:50 / 9:25</p> <p style="text-align: right;">PG-13</p>                        | <p>Kristen Stewart      Robert Pattinson</p> |
| NEW THIS WEEK |  <p><b>WRECK-IT RALPH</b></p> <p>3D</p> <p>Mon - Fri 4:05 / 6:25<br/>Sat, Sun &amp; Hol 1:45 / 4:05 / 6:25</p> <p style="text-align: right;">PG</p>  | <p>John C. Reilly      Sarah Silverman</p>   |
| NEW THIS WEEK |  <p><b>SKYFALL</b></p> <p>With Spanish Subtitles</p> <p>Mon - Fri 6:00 / 9:00<br/>Sat, Sun &amp; Hol 3:00 / 6:00 / 9:00</p> <p style="text-align: right;">PG-13</p>  | <p>Daniel Craig      Javier Bardem</p>       |

STARTING NEXT WEEK DECEMBER 13 THE HOBBIT

**Personal Health:**

# Living with a sound you can't turn off

**JANE E. BRODY**

© 2012 New York Times

Shortly after my 70th birthday, a high-pitched hum began in my left ear. I noticed it only during quiet times but soon realized that it never went away.

An ear, nose and throat specialist (otolaryngologist) examined my ears and took a thorough medical history that included questions about noise exposure and drugs I take. An audiologist checked my hearing. Diagnosis: tinnitus, with a mild hearing loss in the upper range that closely matched the pitch of the hum.

Although the hum was not particularly disturbing, I asked what might be done if it should get loud enough to interfere with my life and ability to hear speech clearly (about 85 percent of tinnitus cases are accompanied by hearing loss). The answer was that I could be fitted with a hearing aid.

But since my tinnitus is still mild, no mention was made of anything that might relieve the constant noise in my head.

Tinnitus is a chronic noise of varying intensity, loudness and pitch that has no external source. Rather, it seems to come from within a person's head. It is most apparent to the sufferer when all is quiet and may not be noticed when the person is otherwise distracted — while participating in physical activity, for example, or listening to music.

There is currently no cure for tinnitus, a potentially

life-disrupting condition that affects about 10 to 20 percent of people, mostly those over age 65, but also many veterans of the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. Among possible causes are head and neck injuries, drugs that damage the ear, blood vessel disease, autoimmune disorders, ear conditions and disorders of the temporomandibular joint.



**A Dutch treatment relies on psychological techniques, like education and deep relaxation, to deal with the chronic noises that only tinnitus sufferers can hear.**

(Yvetta Fedorova via The New York Times)

Until recently, no treatment had been shown to have lasting effectiveness in controlled clinical trials, despite a host of remedies variously endorsed by hearing specialists and commercial interests. In addition to a hearing aid, the most commonly prescribed remedy is a so-called masking device, a white-noise machine that introduces natural or artificial sound into the sufferer's ears in an attempt to suppress the perceived ringing. But eventually the noise of the masker can become as disruptive as the tinnitus.

"When patients respond poorly to the masking de-

vice, they are often told they haven't used it long or consistently enough," said Rilana F.F. Cima, a psychologist and researcher in the Netherlands.

**FEAR AND ANXIETY**

Cima said in an interview that, like me, most people with tinnitus function fairly well. But for about 3 percent of people with the condition, it is extremely disabling, causing intense

distress, fear and anxiety, and leaving them unable to function.

"Patients say the sound is driving them crazy," Cima said. "Their negative reaction to not wanting to hear it creates daily life impairment."

She said patients would do almost anything to avoid hearing the sound in their heads and the feelings of fear and anxiety that result. Recently Cima's team demonstrated the effectiveness of a multidisciplinary, psychology-based approach to this problem. The technique, published last spring in *The Lancet*, does not make the ringing

go away but does show that now there is real hope for relief for people whose tinnitus impairs their ability to work, sleep and enjoy life. In an accompanying editorial, Dr. Berthold Langguth of the University of Regensburg in Germany, an international authority on tinnitus, said the team's findings "overcome the idea that nothing can be done to treat tinnitus" and provide "a clear statement against therapeutic nihilism." James Henry, a specialist in auditory rehabilitation at the Veterans Administration Medical Center in Portland, Ore., where many veterans with traumatic brain injuries are treated for tinnitus, said that Cima had done "probably the best study to date, a good job that is advancing the field."

**AN IMPROVED APPROACH**

The three-month treatment developed and carefully tested by the Dutch team is based on cognitive behavioral therapy and relies on principles of exposure therapy long proven effective to treat phobias. While the use of cognitive behavioral therapy for tinnitus is not new, the team's demonstration of a scientifically validated, comprehensive approach to the problem offers a therapeutic blueprint that others can use.

Unlike the use of a tinnitus masker, the treatment is simple, relatively brief and does not require patients to purchase or use devices to gain relief. If necessary, patients who "relapse" can return for a brief therapeutic brush-up. □

## Rising NY health care costs spur calls to unionize

**RICK KARLIN**

© 2012 Albany Times Union

**ALBANY** — Health insurance costs for thousands of employees at the State University of New York's Research Foundation are rising, a development that's prompting renewed calls by its employees to unionize.

Previous labor organizing efforts at the foundation have had little effect. Foundation officials say they are aligning health insurance costs with those of the rest of the unionized state workforce, whose members have swallowed increases in recent years.

"A lot of people are there for the benefits," said Bill Scherl, a neurology researcher at SUNY Stony Brook who's part of a group seeking initial recognition as a union — dubbed United Research Professionals — on the Long Island campus, with hopes to reach out to foundation employees across the state.

The foundation carries 9,527 people on its payroll; approximately 17,500 work there, but about half are paid through a variety of grants. Just 742 foundation employees are currently unionized.

At issue is a phased-in increase in the percentage of health care insurance costs that employees pay. By 2014, it will have risen from 10 percent to 15 percent for individuals and from 25 percent to 30 percent for family coverage, said foundation spokesman Peter Taubkin.

The out-of-pocket cost for the workers, then, would be a 50 percent increase or a 20 percent boost, respectively. State employees represented by major unions, including the Public Employees Federation and Civil Service Employees Association, had similar health insurance increases in their most recent contracts.

"After this change the value of our health care plan will remain comparable to other SUNY health plan, and competitive with other research universities," said Taubkin. □

## Study could spur more prenatal gene tests

**M. MARCHIONE**

Associated Press

A new study sets the stage for wider use of gene testing in early pregnancy. Scanning the genes of a fetus reveals far more about potential health risks than current prenatal testing does, say researchers who compared both methods in thousands of pregnancies nationwide. A surprisingly high number

— 6 percent — of certain fetuses declared normal by conventional testing were found to have genetic abnormalities by gene scans, the study found. The gene flaws can cause anything from minor defects such as a club foot to more serious ones such as mental retardation, heart problems and fatal diseases.

"This isn't done just so people can terminate preg-

nancies," because many choose to continue them even if a problem is found, said Dr. Ronald Wapner, reproductive genetics chief at Columbia University Medical Center in New York.

"We're better able to give lots and lots of women more information about what's causing the problem and what the prognosis is and what special care

their child might need." He led the federally funded study, published in Thursday's *New England Journal of Medicine*.

A second study in the journal found that gene testing could reveal the cause of most stillbirths, many of which remain a mystery now. That gives key information to couples agonizing over whether to try again. □

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# Amazon launches Kindle content service for kids

**BARBARA ORTUTAY**  
AP Technology Writer

**NEW YORK (AP)** — Amazon is launching a subscription service for children's games, videos and books aimed at getting more kids to use its Kindle Fire tablet devices.

Amazon.com Inc. announced Wednesday that the Kindle FreeTime Unlimited service will be available in the next few weeks as part of an automatic software update. Amazon said subscribers will have access to "thousands" of pieces of content, though the company did not give a specific number. Kids will be able to watch, play and read any of the content available to them as many times as they want. Parents can set time limits,

however.

The service, aimed at kids aged 3 to 8, will cost \$4.99 per month for one child. It'll cost \$2.99 per child for members of Amazon Prime, the company's premium shipping service. Amazon Prime costs \$79 per year for free shipping of merchandise purchased in the company's online store.

Family plans for up to six kids will cost \$9.99 per month and \$6.99 for Prime members. The Kindle already allows for parental controls through its FreeTime service. Parents can set up profiles for up to six children and add time limits to control how long kids can spend reading, watching videos or using the Kindle altogether. With the content subscription

service, kids can browse age-appropriate videos, games and books and pick what they want to see. They won't be shown ads and will be prevented from accessing the Web or social media. Kids also won't be able to make payments within applications.

Amazon, which is based in Seattle, is launching the service as competition heats up in the tablet market among Apple, Barnes & Noble, Microsoft and Samsung. Amazon's strategy is to offer the Kindle at a relatively low price and make money selling the content. Offering a subscription service aimed at kids helps set the Kindle apart from its many competitors. "We hope that our devices are really, really attractive for



This image provided by Amazon shows a new subscription service for children's games, videos and books aimed at getting more kids to use its Kindle Fire tablet devices. software update. Associated Press

families," said Peter Larsen, vice president of Amazon's Kindle business. Amazon's stock increased \$1.47, or 0.6 percent, to close Wednesday at \$253.96. □

# Zynga moves to enter U.S. gambling market

**NEW YORK (AP)** — Online games company Zynga said it has asked Nevada gambling regulators for a decision that could pave the way for it to enter the U.S. gambling market.

This follows Zynga's October disclosure that it has signed a deal to offer online poker and casino games, played with real money, in the U.K. It plans to launch those games in the first half of 2013.

Zynga Inc. said in an email late Wednesday that it is seeking an "application for a preliminary finding of suitability" from the Nevada Gaming Control Board. This, the company says, is part of its plan to enter regulated "real-money gaming," that is, gambling markets. Zynga has not said what it plans to do with a gaming license. But the company,



In this Tuesday, Oct. 11, 2011, file photo, Zynga general manager Erik Bethke speaks at a Zynga event in San Francisco.

Associated Press

whose games are played primarily on Facebook, has faltered in recent months and is looking for additional revenue sources beyond online games such as "FarmVille 2" and "Words With Friends." The San Francisco-based company says the process with Nevada regulators should take 12 to 18 months. If Zynga passes

the first regulatory hurdle, it can then apply for a gaming license in the state. That, the company said, takes two to three months. Zynga's stock rose 15 cents, or 6.5 percent, to \$2.47 in midday trading Thursday. The company went public about a year ago, when its stock priced at \$10 per share. □



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## Stocks edge up as investors keep eye on Washington

**MATTHEW CRAFT**  
AP Business Writer

**NEW YORK (AP)** — Apple and other technology companies led the stock market up for the second day in a row Thursday.

The gains came a day after Apple took its worst fall in four years. In separate interviews, CEO Tim Cook said Apple will produce one of its Mac computers in the United States next year and will spend \$100 million in 2013 to shift production of the line from China.

The tech giant's stock gained \$8.45 to \$547.24

The Dow Jones industrial average rose 39.55 points, or 0.3 percent, to close at 13,074.04. Intel led the Dow, rising 31 cents to \$20.16.

Investors' biggest concern remains the automatic tax increases and federal spending cuts scheduled to start Jan. 1. "Everybody is paying close attention to the soap opera in Washington," said John Canally, investment strategist and economist at LPL Financial. President Barack Obama said Wednesday that the

White House and Republicans could reach an agreement "in about a week" if the Republicans drop their opposition to raising taxes on making more than \$250,000 a year. Most investors believe Obama and Congressional Republicans will strike a budget deal to avoid this "fiscal cliff" before the year is out. Until they reach an agreement, however, the stock market will likely be hostage to news out of Washington. In other trading, the Standard & Poor's 500 index rose 4.66 points to 1,413.94, while the Nasdaq composite climbed 15.57 points to 2,989.27. In the market for U.S. government bonds, the yield on the 10-year Treasury note ended the day at 1.59 percent, the same as late Wednesday. The U.S. Labor Department said unemployment benefits applications dropped 25,000 last week to 370,000, a level consistent with modest hiring. The decline was also a sign that the spike in applications caused by Superstorm Sandy has faded.

The government will release its closely watched monthly jobs report Friday. Private economists forecast that hiring in November sank from the previous month. They expect the unemployment rate to remain unchanged

share at the end of the month and spend up to \$2 billion buying back its stock. Safeway shifted a payment scheduled for January to Dec. 31. And Landstar Systems, a transportation company, will

year unless Congress and the White House extend current tax breaks as part of a budget deal.

Among other stocks making moves:

— Akamai Technologies jumped 10 percent, the best gain in the S&P 500 index. Akamai, which helps websites work faster, forged a partnership with AT&T to deliver online content. Its stock gained \$3.56 to \$39.06. — H&R Block surged 5 percent after posting revenue and earnings that beat analysts' estimates. The country's largest tax preparation company reported a smaller loss, helped by cost-cutting efforts. It typically turns in a loss in the August-to-October period because it takes in most of its revenue during the U.S. tax season. H&R Block gained 89 cents to \$18.26. — The Men's Wearhouse dropped 84 cents to \$30.51. The clothing company posted third-quarter results missed Wall Street's estimates and cut its profit estimates for the fourth quarter and full year. □



Trader Michael Zicchinolfi, left, works on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange Thursday, Dec. 6, 2012. Apple and other technology companies led the stock market up for the second day in a row Thursday. (AP Photo/Richard Drew)

at 7.9 percent. More companies announced plans to reward investors with dividends this month in case taxes rise next year. Sirius XM Radio said it will issue a one-time dividend of 5 cents per

pay shareholders 50 cents a share this month instead of paying dividends for the next two years. Dividends, now taxed at 15 percent, will be treated like ordinary income next

## Apple to produce line of Macs in US next year

**BREE FOWLER**  
**PETER SVENSSON**  
Associated Press

**NEW YORK (AP)** — Apple CEO Tim Cook says the company will produce one of its existing lines of Mac computers in the United States next year.

Cook made the comments in part of an interview taped for NBC's "Rock Center," but aired Thursday

morning on "Today" and posted on the network's website.

In a separate interview with Bloomberg Businessweek, he said that the company will spend \$100 million in 2013 to move production of the line to the U.S. from China. "This doesn't mean that Apple will do it ourselves, but we'll be working with people and we'll be

investing our money," Cook told Bloomberg. Calls to Apple Inc. for comment Thursday were not immediately returned.

Like most consumer electronics companies, Apple forges agreements with contract manufacturers to assemble its products overseas. However, the assembly accounts for a fraction of the cost of making a

PC or smartphone. Most of the cost lies in buying chips, and many of those are made in the U.S., Cook noted in his interview with NBC.

The company and its manufacturing partner Foxconn Technology Group have faced significant criticism this year over working conditions at the Chinese facilities

where Apple products are assembled. The attention prompted Foxconn to raise salaries.

Cook didn't say which line of computers would be produced in the U.S. or where in the country they would be made.

But he told Bloomberg that the production would include more than just final assembly. □



# Yum Brands taking KFC to China's smaller cities

**CANDICE CHOI**

**AP Food Industry Writer**

**NEW YORK (AP)** — The owner of KFC and Pizza Hut is taking its fast-food menus to the lesser-known regions of China, with plans to set up shop in smaller cities throughout the key market. After expanding in China's biggest cities in recent years, Yum Brands Inc. is focusing on populating the country's less urbanized areas. Building in those outposts of the developing nation will give it the kind of infrastructural advantage that McDonald's established decades ago in the U.S., CEO David Novak said at the company's investor conference Thursday.

Yum, which also owns Taco Bell in the United States, is already the biggest Western fast-food chain in China, with about 5,400 locations, compared with 1,600 for McDonald's. The nation's booming economy has been a boon for Yum, helping its profits increase at least 10 percent over the last several years. But with competition intensifying and economic growth slowing, Yum has hit a snag as well, with investors fearing its brands could be losing their luster. Last week,

Yum said it expects a key sales figure to fall 4 percent in China in the fourth quarter, marking its first decline since 2009. A year earlier, sales at established

rising labor and rental costs in big cities such as Shanghai, Beijing, Guangzhou and Shenzhen. As a result, the company said it would be more selective about

heavily in transportation infrastructure. While Yum has nine restaurants for every 1 million people in larger cities, it has just two per million people in smaller cities.

ing there's an appetite for its fried chicken and pizza even less urbanized areas of China.

"We're only on the ground floor of China's development opportunity," said Weiwei Chen, Yum's chief financial officer of China.

In 2013, Yum plans to build 700 restaurants in China. This year, the company had predicted it would build 650 but ended up building more than 800.

To cultivate loyalty amid intensifying competition, Yum is working to cater to local tastes. For example, the company introduced rice as a side dish in KFC. Next year, it plans to extend the line with premium rice offerings. Although KFC accounts for the bulk of its business in China, Pizza Hut is expected to play a bigger role in the coming year with the number of openings to double to 220. That's about the same number of restaurants McDonald's is expected to build in the country, Chen noted.

Part of the pizza chain's growth will be fueled by its expanding delivery service. The company noted that its name for the service translates to "Must Win Homes Fast Delivery" in Chinese—and does not include the word "pizza," which is not as widely eaten in the country as in the U.S. Food other than pizza — fried shrimp, soups, steak — accounts for about half of sales at Pizza Huts in China. In addition to its flagship U.S. brands, Yum has two smaller Chinese food chains — East Dawning and Little Sheep. Chen noted those chains are important to the company because "the Chinese consumer will always eat more Chinese food than Western food." Overall, Yum, based in Louisville, Kentucky, expects sales at restaurants open at least a year to grow in the mid-single digits in China for 2013. Growth is expected to be softer in the first half of the year, and pick up in the second half. "We feel good about it," said Novak, noting the worries Yum's forecast raised last week. □



**A man walks past a sign for KFC in Shanghai, China. The owner of KFC and Pizza Hut said Thursday, Dec. 6, 2012, it is taking its fast-food menus to the lesser-known regions of China, with plans to set up shop in smaller cities throughout the key market. After expanding in China's biggest cities in recent years, Yum Brands Inc. is focusing on populating the country's less urbanized areas.**

**(AP Photo/Eugene Hoshiko)**

restaurants had surged 21 percent. The company's stock dropped 10 percent after the announcement. Also pressuring results in China are the company's

expansion in such metropolitan areas. But executives noted that there is still plenty of room for growth in smaller cities, with the Chinese government investing

Within the first three years of opening, the company noted that new restaurants in smaller cities bring in annual sales of about \$1.4 million to \$1.5 million, show-

## T-Mobile to get Apple devices soon

**BARBARA ORTUTAY**

**Associated Press**

**NEW YORK (AP)** — T-Mobile will likely start carrying the iPhone next year after its parent company, Deutsche Telekom, said it has reached a new deal with Apple.

T-Mobile USA had been the lone iPhone-less carrier among the four national wireless companies in the U.S. Although it has been possible to use iPhones on T-Mobile networks, customers had to provide the phones themselves. The phones also work at much slower speeds, though T-Mobile has been reshuffling its network to match or exceed AT&T's data speeds. The three larger carriers, AT&T Inc., Verizon Wireless and Sprint Nextel Corp., already sell the iPhone, as do

many smaller ones.

Deutsche Telekom AG said Thursday that T-Mobile will add Apple products to its portfolio in the coming year. Though it didn't mention the iPhone by name in

its press release, that's the product it is most likely referring to.

It's possible T-Mobile will also sell a cellular version of the iPad, as the three national carriers do.



**A customer tests the new iPhone 5 at the Apple store in Hong Kong. T-Mobile will likely start carrying the iPhone next year after its parent company, Deutsche Telekom, said it has reached a new deal with Apple.**

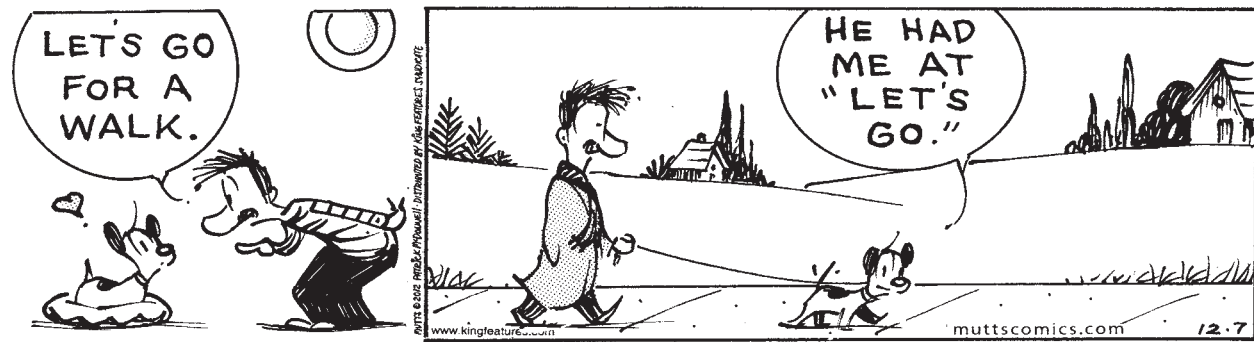
**(AP Photo/Kin Cheung)**

Apple spokeswoman Natalie Harrison confirmed the agreement but would not comment further.

In an email, T-Mobile also wouldn't mention the iPhone by name, saying only that more details will come "at a later date."

T-Mobile has agreed to combine its cellphone business with MetroPCS Communications Inc. in a deal they signed earlier this fall. The combined company will stay No. 4 among U.S. wireless carriers, though the combination is aimed at letting the two better compete with larger rivals. Deutsche Telekom will hold a 74 percent stake in the combined company. MetroPCS shareholders will own the rest. The deal awaits government clearance. □

**Mutts**



**6 Chix**



**Blondie**



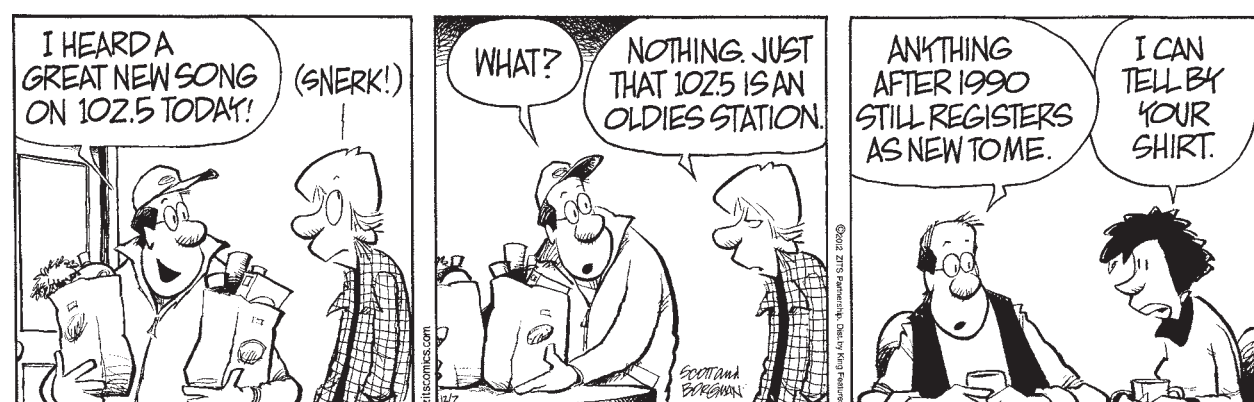
**Mother Goose & Grimm**



**Baby Blues**



**Zits**



**Conceptis Sudoku**

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
|   |   | 3 |   | 6 |   | 7 |   |   |
|   |   |   | 2 |   | 5 |   |   |   |
| 9 |   |   |   | 3 |   |   |   | 2 |
|   | 9 |   |   |   |   |   | 6 |   |
| 5 |   | 6 |   | 8 |   | 4 |   | 9 |
|   | 8 |   |   |   |   |   | 1 |   |
| 1 |   |   |   | 9 |   |   |   | 8 |
|   |   |   | 1 |   | 7 |   |   |   |
|   |   | 7 |   | 2 |   | 5 |   |   |

Difficulty Level ★★★★★

12/07

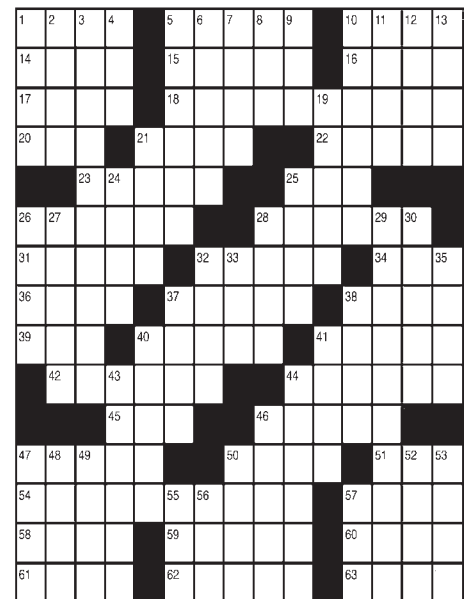
Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

Yesterday's puzzle answer

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 6 | 4 | 2 | 8 | 5 | 3 | 7 | 9 | 1 |
| 3 | 8 | 7 | 4 | 1 | 9 | 5 | 6 | 2 |
| 1 | 9 | 5 | 7 | 6 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 8 |
| 5 | 3 | 1 | 6 | 4 | 8 | 2 | 7 | 9 |
| 7 | 6 | 8 | 2 | 9 | 1 | 4 | 3 | 5 |
| 4 | 2 | 9 | 3 | 7 | 5 | 8 | 1 | 6 |
| 9 | 5 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 4 | 6 | 8 | 7 |
| 8 | 1 | 6 | 5 | 3 | 7 | 9 | 2 | 4 |
| 2 | 7 | 4 | 9 | 8 | 6 | 1 | 5 | 3 |

**ACROSS**

- 1 Beach surface
- 5 Prescribed amounts
- 10 Acting part
- 14 Trip \_\_\_; stumble on
- 15 "Carmen" or "Rigoletto"
- 16 Wicked
- 17 Perishes
- 18 Worthless lout
- 20 Find a sum
- 21 James \_\_\_; 007
- 22 Trousers
- 23 Hideaways
- 25 Evergreen tree
- 26 Goings-on
- 28 Meander
- 31 Ship poles
- 32 Subside
- 34 Lower limb
- 36 Ponder
- 37 Emulate
- Michelle Kwan
- 38 Slender
- 39 Everyone
- 40 Birthplace of GM in Michigan
- 41 Sorority letter
- 42 Wealthy businessman
- 44 Hate
- 45 Stylish
- 46 Ladies
- 47 Sits with the car in neutral
- 50 Can tops
- 51 \_\_\_-tac-toe
- 54 Strolling
- 57 City in Texas
- 58 Green citrus
- 59 Bicyclist \_\_\_ Armstrong
- 60 Press, as clothes
- 61 Catch sight of
- 62 Bury
- 63 Actress Daly



Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews

12/7/12

**Thursday's Puzzle Solved**

|        |           |        |
|--------|-----------|--------|
| LEI    | OTHER     | DARE   |
| EATS   | BRAVE     | IRAN   |
| ARCH   | TIRES     | SEND   |
| LHASA  | APSO      | OATS   |
| MAIL   | LAW       |        |
| ENSIGN | SPURNING  |        |
| DONNA  | SLATE     | DOE    |
| DRAG   | SUEDE     | LION   |
| IMP    | LUMPS     | LOOSE  |
| ESSAY  | IST       | QUOTES |
| PET    | HULK      |        |
| PAPA   | APPEALING |        |
| UNIT   | BLINK     | NEAT   |
| BETH   | LANCIE    | GALE   |
| SWAY   | ENTER     | RAN    |

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12/7/12

**DOWN**

- 1 Ice cream parlor order
- 2 Zealous
- 3 To no purpose
- 4 Urologists and neurologists: abbr.
- 5 Blood bank visitors
- 6 Unwraps
- 7 Tiny beginning
- 8 Goof
- 9 Melancholy
- 10 Prize
- 11 Microwave
- 12 Uplifting tune
- 13 Building wings
- 19 Express one's views
- 21 Electric drill tips
- 24 Poker term
- 25 Destiny
- 26 Actress \_\_\_ Thompson
- 27 Bank safe
- 28 Lightbulb's "W"
- 29 Basic
- 30 Enlarges a hole
- 32 Related
- 33 Prohibit
- 35 Small fly
- 37 Dinner in the sty
- 38 Overdue
- 40 \_\_\_ on; force to accept

- 41 Jewels
- 43 Bicen's predecessor
- 44 Los Angeles baseball player
- 46 Cringe in pain
- 47 \_\_\_ of Capri
- 48 Speaker's platform
- 49 \_\_\_ together; combine
- 50 Dryer residue
- 52 Computer screen image
- 53 Scoop holder
- 55 Mr. Whitney
- 56 Galloped
- 57 Clever humor

# Pearl Harbor survivor helps identify unknown dead

**AUDREY McAVOY**  
Associated Press

**HONOLULU (AP)** — Ray Emory could not accept that more than one quarter of the 2,400 Americans who died at Pearl Harbor were buried, unidentified, in a volcanic crater.

And so he set out to restore names to the dead.

Emory, a survivor of the attack, doggedly scoured decades-old documents to piece together who was who.

He pushed, and sometimes badgered, the U.S. government into relabeling more than 300 gravestones with the ship names of the deceased. And he lobbied for forensic scientists to exhume the skeletons of those who might be identified.

On Friday, the 71-year anniversary of the Japanese attack, the Navy and National Park Service will honor the 91-year-old former sailor for his determination to have Pearl Harbor remembered, and remembered accurately.

"Some of the time, we suffered criticism from Ray and sometimes it was personally directed at me. And I think it was all for the better," said National Park Service historian Daniel Martinez. "It made us rethink things. It wasn't viewed by me as personal, but a reminder of how you need to sharpen your pencil when you recall these events and the people and what's important."

Emory first learned of the unknown graves more than 20 years ago when he visited the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific shortly before the 50th anniversary of the attack. The grounds foreman told him the Pearl Harbor dead were scattered around the veterans' graveyard in a volcanic crater called Punchbowl after its resemblance to the serving dish. Emory got a clipboard and walked along row after row of flat granite markers, making notes of any listing death around Dec. 7, 1941. He got ahold of the Navy's burial records from archives in Washington and



**Ray Emory discusses his work pushing to change grave markers for unknown Pearl Harbor dead and identifying the remains of unknowns at his home in Honolulu. The Navy and National Park Service will honor Emory on Dec. 7 for his determination to have Pearl Harbor remembered, and remembered accurately.**

(AP Photo/Audrey McAvoy)

determined which ships the dead in each grave were from.

He wrote the government asking why the markers didn't note ship names and asked them to change it.

"They politely told me to go you-know-where," Emory told The Associated Press in an interview at his Honolulu home, where he keeps a "war room" packed with documents, charts and maps. Military and veterans policy called for chang-

ing grave markers only if remains are identified, an inscription is mistaken or a marker is damaged.

Emory appealed to the late Patsy Mink, a Hawaii congresswoman who inserted a provision in an appropriations bill requiring Veterans Affairs to include "USS Arizona" on gravestones of unknowns from that battleship.

Today, unknowns from other vessels like the USS Oklahoma and USS West Virgin-

ia, also have new markers. Some of the dead, like those turned to ash, will likely never be identified. But Emory knew some could be.

The Navy's 1941 burial records noted one body, burned and floating in the harbor, was found wearing shorts with the name "Livingston." Only two men named Livingston were assigned to Pearl Harbor at the time, and one of the two was accounted for. Emory suspected the body was the other Livingston.

Government forensic scientists exhumed him. Dental records, a skeletal analysis and circumstantial evidence confirmed Emory's suspicions. The remains belonged to Alfred Livingston, a 23-year-old fireman first class assigned to the USS Oklahoma. □

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## Dave Brubeck receives posthumous Grammy nod

CHARLES J. GANS

Associated Press

**NEW YORK (AP)** — Dave Brubeck has received a posthumous Grammy Award nomination in the best instrumental composition category for a symphonic piece inspired by Ansel Adams' iconic black-and-white photographs.

Brubeck and his son, Chris, were nominated Wednesday for "Music of Ansel Adams: America," performed by the Temple University Symphony Orchestra. The announcement came hours after the legend-

ary jazz pianist and composer died at age 91 in Norwalk, Connecticut. □



This July 4, 2009 file photo shows Jazz legend Dave Brubeck performing at the 30th edition of the Montreal International Jazz Festival in Montreal.

Associated Press

## Gary Sinise, Trombone Shorty to ride in Orpheus

STACEY PLAISANCE

Associated Press

**NEW ORLEANS (AP)** — Actor Gary Sinise and New Orleans musicians Troy "Trombone Shorty" Andrews and Harry Connick Jr. will lead the parade of the Krewe of Orpheus on the evening of Lundi Gras, the day before Fat Tuesday. They also will perform at the glitzy ball that follows.

The celebrity riders were announced Thursday at Mardi Gras World, where many Carnival floats are built.

Orpheus marks its 20th anniversary when it parades Feb. 11.

The krewe was co-founded in 1993 by Connick and Sonny Borey, the krewe's captain. It has about 1,200



In this July 28, 2010 file photo, actor Gary Sinise arrives at the CBS CW Showtime press tour party in Beverly Hills, Calif.

Associated Press

members and is known for attracting celebrities. Connick will perform an original song he wrote for the anniversary, called "Smokey Mary Boogie Woogie Choo Choo." □

## Roger Ebert hospitalized with fractured hip

CARYN ROUSSEAU

Associated Press

**CHICAGO (AP)** — Famed Chicago movie critic Roger Ebert has been hospitalized with a hip fracture.

His wife, Chaz Ebert, told The Associated Press on Thursday that her husband was doing much better and "doctors are making assessments" about when he could leave the hospital.

She posted on Twitter earlier in the day that her Pulitzer Prize-winning husband was doing well and "asking for computer, will probably tweet."

Roger Ebert is a prolific Twitter user and last posted Tuesday afternoon. □

## Keaton honored at Women in Entertainment breakfast

SANDY COHEN

AP Entertainment Writer

**BEVERLY HILLS, California (AP)** — When Diane Keaton learned she would receive the Sherry Lansing Leadership Award, the 66-year-old actress immediately began panicking about her speech.

Keaton accepted the diamond-and-ruby-encrusted prize Wednesday at the Hollywood Reporter's 21st annual Women in Entertainment breakfast honoring the most powerful women in Hollywood.

She opened by warning that her speech wasn't funny, then proceeded to crack up the crowd inside the ballroom of the Beverly Hills Hotel.

"I just wanted my speech to be the most touching, heartfelt, funniest, yet also persuasive, because that's



Actress Diane Keaton attends The Hollywood Reporter's 21st Annual Women in Entertainment Power 100 breakfast presented by Lifetime on Wednesday, Dec. 5, 2012 in Beverly Hills, Calif.

Associated Press

what a leader is," the Oscar winner said. "I just knew that my speech had to be way better than Meryl Streep's speech or Jane

Fonda or Helen Mirren" — all previous Lansing Award winners.

Keaton paid tribute to her parents, particularly her mother, who died in 2008 of Alzheimer's. Keaton revealed all the things she wished she would have said to her mom, describing her as "my first and most inspired leader."

Wednesday's breakfast also featured speeches by Sandra Fluke, who encouraged the entertainers and executives in attendance to show girls in leadership positions on screen and hire women for such positions off screen; and Mindy Kaling, who confessed that even though the ballroom was filled with women, she opted to wear Spanx beneath her dress because, "I need to look banging for Diane Keaton." □

## Actor Stephen Baldwin charged in New York tax evasion case

JIM FITZGERALD

Associated Press

**WHITE PLAINS, New York (AP)** — Actor Stephen Baldwin was charged Thursday with failing to pay New York state taxes for three years, amassing a \$350,000 debt. Baldwin skipped his taxes in 2008, 2009 and 2010, said Rockland County District Attorney Thomas Zugibe said.

The youngest of the four acting Baldwin brothers pleaded not guilty at an arraignment and was freed without bail. His lawyer, Russell Yankwitt, said Baldwin should not have been charged.

"Mr. Baldwin did not commit any crimes, and he's working with the district attorney's office and the New York State Tax Department to resolve any differences," Yankwitt said.

The district attorney said Baldwin could face up to four years in prison if convicted. The actor is due back in court Feb. 5.

Zugibe said Baldwin owes



This Oct. 12, 2012 file image released by Starpix shows contestant Stephen Baldwin posing at the cast announcement for the new "All Star Celebrity Apprentice," in New York.

Associated Press

more than \$350,000 in tax and penalties.

"We cannot afford to allow wealthy residents to break the law by cheating on their taxes," the district attorney said. "The defendant's repetitive failure to file returns and pay taxes over a period of several years contributes to the sweeping cutbacks and closures in local government and in our schools."

Thomas Mattox, the state

tax commissioner, said, "It is rare and unfortunate for a personal income tax case to require such strong enforcement measures."

**Baldwin, 46,** starred in 1995's "The Usual Suspects" and appeared in 1989's "Born on the Fourth of July." He is scheduled to appear in March on NBC's "The Celebrity Apprentice." His brothers Alec, William and Daniel are also actors. □



This Oct. 27, 2012 file photo shows James Hetfield, left, and Kirk Hammett of Metallica performing at the Voodoo Music Experience in New Orleans.

Associated Press

## Metallica's music now available on Spotify

**NEW YORK (AP)** — Metallica is bringing its all-out assault to Spotify. The company announced the move Thursday during a presentation to debut new features in New York. Metallica had previously declined to stream its music. Fans can now access 30 years of the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame band's recordings. The move is significant for the band. Metallica was among several acts

who sued Napster in 2000, eventually forcing a settlement that required Napster to evolve into a pay-for-use service that became something of a model for today's streaming companies. Drummer Lars Ulrich says in a news release the band has waited a long time to see how the music streaming service model would evolve and is "beyond psyched to unleash our music through" Spotify. □

## MtvU honors Frank Ocean, wounded Pakistani teen

**NEW YORK (AP)** — The mtvU network is honoring a rap superstar who detailed his love for another man and a Pakistani girl shot for her education advocacy as its Man and Woman of the Year. Frank Ocean, who earned six Grammy nominations Wednesday, published a letter online about his first love, a man, just as his "channel ORANGE" disc was being released. MtvU on Thursday called it "an incredibly brave move for an artist on the verge of superstardom."

Fifteen-year-old Malala Yousufzai blogged about her support of education for girls in Pakistan. For that,



This Nov. 17, 2011 file photo shows musician Frank Ocean at the 16th annual GQ "Men of the Year" party in Los Angeles.

Associated Press

Taliban militants stormed her school bus and shot her in the head and neck, but she survived. □

# Graham Parker back with his band after 3 decades



This undated publicity film image released by Universal Pictures shows Graham Parker, center, in a scene from the Universal Pictures film, "This is 40," written, co-produced and directed by Judd Apatow.

Associated Press

**DAVID BAUDER**  
**AP Entertainment Writer**  
**STONE RIDGE, N.Y. (AP)**

— The bass player is a librarian. One guitarist fixes guitars, the other teaches people how to play. The drummer and keyboard player have scattered to other gigs. Yet when Graham Parker decided to reassemble the Rumour, the backup band that played on his first four albums before their breakup more than 30 years ago, no one hesitated to say yes. The reunion includes an album, "Three Chords Good," and theater tour, and is giving the singer a renewed burst of attention. Parker's role in filmmaker Judd Apatow's new comedy, "This Is 40," will get him noticed even more upon its release on Dec. 21. "It will disappear as soon as this is over and people will say, 'Brian who? Brian Parker? Never heard of him,'" he joked. "At the moment I feel like everybody knows me. It's a very strange thing." Coming out of England in 1975, Parker's tightly wound rock made him a critical favorite. After disbanding the Rumour following the 1980 album, "The Up Escalator," Parker moved to New York's Catskills region and has steadily written, recorded and performed. As with

most artists of a certain age (he's 62), the music world's attention moved on. He plays on a recreational soccer team and recently introduced himself to a fellow player, who cluelessly remarked that Parker had the same name as a musician he liked. Back in the day, Parker wrote and sang with a snarl. "I was so intense that I wanted to basically injure people with music," he said. "It was a bit 'Spinal Tap.' Make some ears bleed." New songs like "A Lie Gets Halfway 'Round the World ..." and "Coathangers" show he hasn't lost his lyrical bite. But Parker has heart, too. He's funny. The song "Long Emotional Ride," written after being overwhelmed seeing a documentary being made on his life, proves he can be sweetly nostalgic, too. Judging by the smiles worn by Parker, keyboard player Bob Andrews, guitarists Brinsley Schwarz and Martin Belmont, bassist Andrew Bodnar and drummer Stephen Goulding onstage in Tarrytown, N.Y., during their first show back, they're having fun reliving their youth. The versatile Rumour brings out the soul, jazzy swing and reggae influences in Parker's songs.

The reunion was set in motion when he asked Goulding and Bodnar to help him on a new CD, and they suggested getting the full band together. It had crossed Parker's mind before. The breakup wasn't bitter; he just wanted to try playing with some new people, he said. Getting together earlier probably wouldn't have made financial sense, but now he said there seems to be more interest. After organizing the reunion, Parker had a brief moment of terror wondering whether the songs he'd written would suit them. "It would have been awkward to say, 'Sorry, guys, I just don't see you playing this stuff,'" he said. "They can play anything and play it good, but would it be stimulating for them and would it be the right thing musically?" That quickly proved not to be a problem. While this was happening and before anyone knew about it, Apatow contacted Parker's agent. The filmmaker had used Parker's song "Love Gets You Twisted" in the final episode of his TV series "Undeclared." He read some things Parker had written on his website about trying to get more of his music placed on movies or television. □

## Mighty Morphin Hillary Clinton



MAUREEN DOWD  
© 2012 New York Times

WASHINGTON — Everyone expected Hillary to lower the boom on Bibi on Friday night.

The bullying Israeli prime minister is fond of demanding that America set red lines on Iran's nuclear ambitions. But he blithely stuck a finger in the eye of President Barack Obama and Secretary of State Clinton Friday and went over a red line for successive U.S. administrations: Israel gave the White House only a few hours' notice that it was defying the U.S. and planning new settlements in the most sensitive territory east of Jerusalem, a move that Washington fears could obliterate any prospect of a two-state solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

"If such a project were to go beyond blueprints," Jodi Rudoren and Mark Landler wrote in The Times, "it could prevent the creation of a viable, contiguous Palestinian state" by closing off the West Bank from East Jerusalem.

The brazen and counterproductive action, designed to punish the Palestinians, flouted the Obama administration, which had Israel's back twice recently: in the clash with Hamas over Gaza and, despite increased diplomatic isolation, in opposing the successful vote to upgrade Palestine to a nonmember observer state in the United Nations. The provocation preceded Hillary's speech at the Saban Forum at the Willard Hotel here Friday night. The conference on the Middle East is run by Haim Saban, an Israeli-American media and entertainment mogul from Beverly Hills who is best known for three things: bringing the Mighty Morphin Power Rangers from Japan to America, being a vocal supporter of Israel and lavishing the Clintons with donations. (He gave \$5 million to the Clinton presidential library and \$5 million to the Clinton foundation and avidly supported Hillary's '08 bid against Obama.)

Last year, at the Saban forum, Hillary infuriated some Israeli ministers when she said she was alarmed about the rights of women and "antidemocratic" bills proposed by far-right members of the Netanyahu government. She talked about her dismay at learning that some religious Israeli soldiers walked out of events where women were singing and that some buses in Jerusalem operated under gender apartheid

— "reminiscent of Rosa Parks," as she put it. So, many in the audience this time assumed that the outgoing secretary of state would lay down the law to Bibi on settlements, and they were surprised when she pulled her punches and made only a mild reference, eschewing the word "settlements."

"These activities," she said, "set back the cause of a negotiated peace." She said the Palestinians could have had a state "as old as I am" if in 1947 they had made "the right decision" or if they had "worked with my husband" in 2000. And she urged Israel to be "generous" toward the Palestinians. But she didn't whack Bibi, as he deserved.

Many there came away assuming that it was the beginning of Hillary's 2016 campaign, that she was thinking about her future rather than her present. Her reasoning, they reckoned, was this: If Obama doesn't want to have anything to do with the settlement issue, if he'd rather spend his time in Myanmar than Israel, then why should she stir up trouble with Israel and her pro-Israel supporters on her way out the door? And aside from the dog that didn't bark, there was the video that roared.

A film that introduced Hillary featured leaders and Israeli pals — including Netanyahu, Ehud Barak, Shimon Peres and Tzipi Livni — gushing over the secretary. In a dispatch headlined "Hillary Is Running," David Remnick, The New Yorker editor, wrote: "The film was like an international endorsement four years in advance of the Iowa caucus and the New Hampshire primary."

How can we focus on Barry's transition when Hillary's is so much more riveting? Far from being depleted and ready for a spa, she's energetically rounding up the usual suspects.

She "took steps to solidify her relationships with some Democrats by sending hand-signed notes to candidates who got bested in close congressional races," offering them encouragement and succor, The New York Observer's politics blog reports. That provided a marked contrast to Obama, who did not bother to rally Democrats in his acceptance speech. Clinton also reached out for the first time to reunite her Irish-American fundraisers and top supporters. IrishCentral.com reports that Kris Balderston, a Hillary aide at State, sent invitations to several prominent Irish Democrats who raised millions for her Senate and presidential runs to accompany the top diplomat to events in Dublin and Belfast this week. Although other possible 2016 contenders, like Joe Biden, Andrew Cuomo and Gov. Martin O'Malley of Maryland, have Irish connections, Hillary is the cushla, or darling.

"I hope this means Hillary is running," said Niall O'Dowd, the publisher of IrishCentral.com and other Irish publications in New York, who is joining the secretary in Ireland at her invitation. □



## The Next Tobacco?



JOE NOCERA  
© 2012 New York Times

Almost from the moment I started writing about the NCAA last year, I received periodic emails from fans of the University of Southern California football team, still incensed about an NCAA ruling that had been issued against the school in 2010. They claimed that the case offered an unusually stark look at how the NCAA twists facts, tramples over due process and unfairly destroys reputations when it sets out to nail a school, a player or a coach.

I didn't pursue it back then, partly because the story seemed stale; the alleged transgression had mainly taken place in 2005. Besides, the rules themselves are little more than a restraint of trade, meant to ensure that the athletes remain uncompensated despite the billions of dollars everyone else reaps from the sweat of their brows.

In the USC case, the NCAA made a series of allegations about Reggie Bush, the 2005 Heisman Trophy winner, the most memorable of which was that his parents had lived rent-free in a house owned — heaven forbid! — by one of two would-be agents. The NCAA views any transaction between a college athlete and an agent as a violation of its amateurism rules. Ah, but what to do about it? Bush, safely ensconced in the NFL, was out of reach of the NCAA. There

wasn't even all that much it could do to USC — unless, that is, its investigators could prove that a member of the USC athletic staff had known about the sub rosa relationship. Then it could throw the book at USC. Which is exactly what happened.

The university official the NCAA singled out was Todd McNair, 47, an African-American assistant football coach. One of the would-be agents, Lloyd Lake, who has a history of prior arrests, claimed that he had told McNair about the relationship during an angry 2 1/2 minute phone call late on the night of Jan. 6, 2006. McNair, for his part, said that he had no recollection of ever meeting Lake, much less having an angry phone call with him. There was no evidence to corroborate Lake's claim.

Not that that mattered. The NCAA's Committee on Infractions concluded that Lake was believable, McNair was not, and that the coach was guilty of "unethical conduct." Thus labeled, McNair's coaching career was effectively destroyed.

McNair then sued the NCAA for defamation — and here, I happily concede, is where the story becomes anything but stale. About two weeks ago, Frederick Shaller, a superior court judge in Los Angeles, issued a tentative ruling, saying that McNair "has shown a probability of prevailing on the defamation claims." He also denied the NCAA's request to put the emails and other evidence that had led him to this conclusion under seal.

The evidence is simply beyond the pale. To find McNair guilty of unethical conduct, the enforcement staff had to put words into Lake's mouth that he never uttered. It botched its questioning of McNair — and then, realizing its mistake, chose not to re-interview him. One enforcement official sent a back-channel email describing McNair as "a lying, morally bankrupt criminal." And

that's just for starters.

Because he is a public figure, McNair had to show that the NCAA had committed "actual malice" — that is, it wrote things in the full knowledge that they were false. As any journalist knows, it is very difficult for a public figure to sue for defamation — precisely because the actual malice standard is so difficult to meet. At one point during the hearing, the judge told the NCAA's lawyer that he well understood why the organization would want to keep evidence away from the public; if he were the NCAA, he would want to keep it from the public, too.

If this evidence does become public — the NCAA has vowed to appeal — I think it will scandalize fans who have long been led to believe that NCAA investigators were the "good guys" trying to catch the "bad guys" in college sports. Nor are these the only NCAA documents that are coming to light. In a class-action lawsuit involving former players who object to the NCAA's profiting from their likeness long after they have graduated, emails and documents have exposed the essential hypocrisy that underlies college sports. (A lawyer with Boies, Schiller & Flexner, where my fiancée works, is among those working on the case. She has no involvement.)

I think back to another time when the release of documents changed the way the public thought about a certain secretive institution. Back in the mid-1990s, whistle-blowers leaked documents to the news media showing that the tobacco industry had long known that cigarettes caused cancer — and had been involved in a massive cover-up. The ensuing litigation forced the tobacco industry to pay enormous sums in recompense and ultimately to be regulated by the federal government.

Not that NCAA is the next tobacco. □

# As grass goes legit, a history of the herb

**GENE JOHNSON**  
Associated Press

**SEATTLE (AP)** — The grass is no greener. But, finally, it's legal — at least somewhere in America. It's been a long, strange trip for marijuana. Washington state and Colorado voted to legalize and regulate its recreational use last month. But before that, the plant, renowned since ancient times for its strong fibers, medical use and mind-altering properties, was a staple crop of the colonies, an "assassin of youth," a counterculture emblem and a widely accepted — if often abused — medicine. On the occasion of Thursday's "Legalization Day," when Washington's new law takes effect, here's a look back at the cultural and legal status of the "evil weed" in American history.

## CANNABIS IN THE COLONIES

George Washington and Thomas Jefferson both grew hemp and puzzled over the best ways to process it for clothing and rope. Indeed, cannabis has been grown in America since soon after the British arrived. In 1619 the Crown ordered the colonists at Jamestown to grow hemp to satisfy England's incessant demand for maritime ropes. Wayne State University professor Ernest Abel wrote in "Marihuana: The First Twelve Thousand Years." Hemp became more important to the colonies as New England's own shipping industry developed, and homespun hemp helped clothe American soldiers during the Revolutionary War. Some colonies offered farmers "bounties" for growing it. "We have manufactured within our families the most necessary articles of cloathing," Jefferson said in "Notes on the State of Virginia." "Those of wool, flax and hemp are very coarse, unsightly, and unpleasant." Jefferson went on to invent a device for processing hemp in 1815.

## TASTE THE HASHISH

Books such as "The Arabian Nights" and Alexandre Dumas' "The Count of Monte Cristo," with its voluptuous descriptions of hashish highs in the exotic Orient, helped spark a cannabis fad among intellectuals in the mid-19th century. "But what changes occur!" one of Dumas' characters tells an uninitiated acquaintance. "When you return to this mundane sphere from your visionary world, you would seem to leave a Neapolitan spring for a Lapland winter -- to quit paradise for earth -- heaven for hell! Taste the hashish, guest of mine -- taste the hashish." After

the Civil War, with hospitals often overprescribing opiates for pain, many soldiers returned home hooked on harder drugs. Those addictions eventually became a public health concern. In 1906, Congress passed the Pure Food and Drug Act, requiring labeling of ingredients, and states began regulating opiates and other medicines — including cannabis.

## REEFER MADNESS, HEMP FOR VICTORY

After the repeal of alcohol prohibition in 1933, Harry Anslinger, who headed the federal Bureau of Narcotics, turned his attention to pot. He told of sensational crimes reportedly committed by marijuana addicts. "No one knows, when he places a marijuana cigarette to his lips, whether he will become a philosopher, a joyous

jive lingo and passion for swift, hot music, provide a fertile field for growth of the marijuana habit, narcotics agents have found here," began a 1943 Washington Post story about increasing pot use in the nation's capital. The Department of Agriculture promoted a different message. After Japanese troops cut off access to Asian fiber supplies during World War II, it released "Hemp For Victory," a propaganda film urging farmers to grow hemp and extolling its use in parachutes and rope for the war effort.

## COUNTERCULTURE

As the conformity of the post-war era took hold, getting high on marijuana and other drugs emerged as a symbol of the counterculture, with Jack Kerouac and the rest of the Beat Generation singing pot's prais-

stock finally exposed the falsity of the claims so many had made about marijuana leading to violence, says University of Virginia professor Richard Bonnie, a scholar of pot's cultural status. In 1972, Bonnie was the associate director of a commission appointed by President Richard Nixon to study marijuana. The commission said marijuana should be decriminalized and regulated. Nixon rejected that, but a dozen states in the '70s went on to eliminate jail time as a punishment for pot arrests.

## "JUST SAY NO"

The push to liberalize drug laws hit a wall by the late 1970s. Parents groups became concerned about data showing that more children were using drugs, and at a younger age. The religious right was emerg-

marijuana fell from 10 percent to 3 percent. And marijuana use was so politically toxic that when Bill Clinton ran for president in 1992, he said he "didn't inhale."

## MEDS OF A DIFFERENT SORT

Marijuana has been used as medicine since ancient times, as described in Chinese, Indian and Roman texts, but U.S. drug laws in the latter part of the 20th century made no room for it. In the 1970s, many states passed symbolic laws calling for studies of marijuana's efficacy as medicine, although virtually no studies ever took place because of the federal prohibition. Nevertheless, doctors noted its ability to ease nausea and stimulate appetites of cancer and AIDS patients. And in 1996, California became the first state to allow the medical use of marijuana. Since then, 17 other states and the District of Columbia have followed. In recent years, medical marijuana dispensaries — readily identifiable by the green crosses on their storefronts — have proliferated in many states, including Washington, Colorado and California. That's prompted a backlash from some who suggest they are fronts for illicit drug dealing and that most of the people they serve aren't really sick. The Justice Department has shut down some it deems the worst offenders.

## LEGAL WEED AT LAST

On Nov. 6, Washington and Colorado pleased aging hippies everywhere — and shocked straights of all ages — by voting to become the first states to legalize the fun use of marijuana. Voters handily approved measures to decriminalize the possession of up to an ounce by adults over 21. Colorado's measure also permits home-growing of up to six plants. Both states are working to set up a regulatory scheme with licensed growers, processors and retail stores. Eventually, activists say, grown-ups will be able to walk into a store, buy some marijuana, and walk out with ganja in hand — but not before paying the taxman. The states expect to raise hundreds of millions of dollars for schools and other government functions. But it's not so simple. The regulatory schemes conflict with the federal government's longstanding pot prohibition, according to many legal scholars. The Justice Department could sue to block those schemes from taking effect — but hasn't said whether it will do so.

The bizarre journey of cannabis in America continues. □



**Photo shows former President Thomas Jefferson's home, Monticello, in Charlottesville, Va. Jefferson and George Washington both grew hemp and puzzled over the best ways to process it for clothing and rope. Indeed, cannabis has been grown in America since soon after the British arrived. Jefferson went on to invent a device for processing hemp in 1815. On the occasion of "Legalization Day," Thursday, Dec. 6, 2012, when Washington's new law takes effect, AP takes a look back at the cultural and legal status of the "evil weed" in American history.**

reveler in a musical heaven, a mad insensate, a calm philosopher, or a murderer," he wrote in a 1937 magazine article called "Marijuana: Assassin of Youth." The hysteria was captured in the propaganda films of the time — most famously, "Reefer Madness," which depicted young adults descending into violence and insanity after smoking marijuana. The movie found little audience upon its release in 1936 but was rediscovered by pot fans in the 1970s. Congress banned marijuana with the Marihuana Tax Act of 1937. Anslinger continued his campaign into the '40s and '50s, sometimes trying — without luck — to get jazz musicians to inform on each other. "Zoot suited hep cats, with their

es. It also continued to be popular with actors and musicians. When actor Robert Mitchum was arrested on a marijuana charge in 1948, People magazine recounted, "The press nationwide branded him a dope fiend. Preachers railed against him from pulpits. Mothers warned their daughters to shun his films." Congress responded to increasing drug use — especially heroin — with stiffer penalties in the '50s. Anslinger began to hype what we now call the "gateway drug" theory: that marijuana had to be controlled because it would eventually lead its users to heroin. Then came Vietnam. The widespread, open use of marijuana by hippies and war protesters from San Francisco to Wood-

(AP Photo/Steve Helber)

ing as a force in national politics. And the first "Cheech and Chong" movie, in 1978, didn't do much to burnish pot's image. When she became first lady, Nancy Reagan quickly promoted the anti-drug cause. During a visit with schoolchildren in Oakland, California, as Reagan later recalled, "A little girl raised her hand and said, 'Mrs. Reagan, what do you do if somebody offers you drugs?' And I said, 'Well, you just say no.' And there it was born." By 1988, more than 12,000 "Just Say No" clubs and school programs had been formed, according to the Ronald Reagan Presidential Foundation and Library. Between 1978 and 1987, the percentage of high school seniors reporting daily use of